Yet Emory Burke Serve His Sentence

Gen. George Van Horn Moseley, toiler in various organizations of the type best illustrated by Gerald L. K. Smith, and George W. Armstrong, of Texas, whose offer of $50 million to Jefferson Military College if it would teach the glorious Armstrong ideas made news in 1949, has asked a pardon for Emory Burke. Burke headed up the now extinct Columbians, which was a Fascist organization and wore uniforms to prove it.

They advocated overthrow of the present form of government; carried on a vicious anti-Semitic campaign and agitated the Negro housing problem by threats of bombings and violence.

They openly assumed police powers and publicly asserted they would one day take over the Government and run it as they wished.

A jury found Burke and his associate, Homer Loomis, guilty. On the evidence presented, Burke richly deserved the sentence given. He has a history of association with Fascist organizations.

The plea for a pardon is not unexpected from Gen. Moseley, who has, to the sorrow of those who knew him as a military man, lent himself to organizations of a Fascist nature.

As an indication of how far behind the time Gen. Moseley is in his plea on behalf of prejudice, he made his request just before the Georgia Legislature passed a bill unmasking the Ku Klux Klan.

That a Superior Court judge should have been abused in the appeal is typical.

We suggest the Georgia Board of Pardons and Appeals note well that Fascism is as dangerous as Communism. Both would destroy America. Let Burke serve as a jury found.

Homer Loomis Out Of State Prison

Homer Loomis, Jr., the son of a New York admiralty lawyer who came South to organize the race-baiting Columbians, Inc., was reported Friday to have been paroled from Georgia prison.

Records of the Georgia Pardon and Parole Board show that Loomis was freed February 11 after serving five months of a 12-month sentnce for inciting to riot. The records show that Loomis is studying in an Atlanta law school.

Loomis was arrested in 1946 in connection with a riot in the Negro section of Atlanta.

Flogging Trial Delayed Again

Post-Revised

Two Witnesses Hold Up Moody Nations Case

was. 3-7-51

Two principal state's witnesses delayed the flogging trial of Moody Nations for five and a half hours yesterday in Circuit Court.

Judge Alta L. King said the case would get underway today at 9 a.m. in his courtroom, after being delayed for two days for various reasons.

3 KKK

Nations is charged with the flogging of Mary Alice Henderson, 26, of Praco. The absence of Miss Henderson and Willie Stevens, 25, of West Jefferson, held up the trial from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. yesterday.

Deputy Solicitor Cecil Deason, who is prosecuting this case, sent out a deputy sheriff with warrants for the two. Deason said they told the deputies they were trying to fix their car which had broken down.

The pair were placed in County Jail without bond.

Deason and Defense Attorneys Roderick Beddow, George Rogers and Jim Gibson finished choosing the jury yesterday morning.

Willie Stevens is now an employe of Coleman A. Lollar, who has twice been acquitted on flogging charges but who still faces several other similar charges.

K. K. K. In News Again

(Florence Herald)

On the eve of the trials of some persons charged with flogging while masked, during the outbreak of violence in Jefferson and adjoining counties two years ago, a band of robed and hooded men made the first public appearance of the K. K. K. in Alabama for several months.

The K. K. K. group was composed of about 35 persons and took charge of the church services at Wooten's Chapel, near New Merkle, where the leaders spoke in their usual fanatical manner. A tall man with a blackjack refused to allow a news photographer to take pictures, but there was no disturbance.

The last Legislature passed a law against the appearance of masked persons on the public highways and there has been little indication of Klan activity since.

It is to be hoped that the demonstration on Sunday night does not signify a revival of former hooded lawlessness.

5 Crosses Burned In Birmingham Area

BIRMINGHAM, July 25—(AP). Five crosses were burned Wednesday night in the Birmingham area, and a Klan leader said their flames "presage a renewed activity of the Federated Ku Klux Klans."

Four crosses were reported afire in and near Birmingham and one in northeast Jefferson County.

William Hugh Morris, who headed the Alabama Klan during the Summer of 1949, a time of floggings and demonstrations by hooded night mobs, predicted "renewed activity" by the KKK.

WILLIAM HUGH MORRIS, Ku Klux Klan leader, said the cross burnings mark renewed activity of the Klan in Alabama.

"We have been busy with our organization and are ready to help fight Communism," he said.

Morris, who spent weeks in jail in 1949 on a contempt of court charge until he finally revealed a "Klan roster" to the courts, said the Federated Ku Klux Klan which he heads is the only official Klan organization in Alabama.

"However," he said, "there are some other unofficial klan organizations, but they have no legal status."

The cross-burnings came about 9 p.m. in scattered sections, as if they were timed to attract attention.

THE FIRE department was called to extinguish a cross in the 4200 block of Lewisburg.

A man seen setting fire to a cross at Clay was given chase by a spectator. Another cross was fired in Trussville.

One cross was burned north of the Municipal Airport, another south of Bessemer and one near Fairfield.

Law enforcement officers said the cross burnings doubtless were organized in an attempt "to scare local residents."

Last night's cross burnings was the largest such demonstration since the Summer of 1949 when masked and robed men launched a series of kidnapings and floggings in North Alabama.

Alabama Flogging Verdict Is Upset

KKK case

Reprinted From Yesterday's Final Edition

BIRMINGHAM, June 28—(AP)—Conviction of Klansman A. B. (Byrd) Carradine for attempted flogging was set aside Wednesday by a circuit judge.

Carradine was the only one of 18 defendants convicted following an outbreak of flogging and cross burnings in this area in 1949. He was fined $500 and given a six-month jail sentence.

Judge Alta L. King said all evidence was that flogging actually had been committed. He said, therefore, that the conviction for an attempt to flog was not supported by the evidence.

The case could now be placed back on the docket for retrial.

Fiery crosses again disturb landscape in, near Jefferson

Fiery crosses—symbols of the Ku Klux Klan—have flared up again in Jefferson and Talladega Counties.

At least six crosses were burned in the Birmingham area.

A large, five-foot cross was burned about a mile north of Talladega on Highway 21 where the Ku Klux Klan held meetings in 1949.

The crosses were set fire quietly at vantage points where they could be seen, but apparently none was fire as a "warning" to any particular persons. No klansmen massed and there were no demonstrations.

Uphold Conviction Of Sheriffs For Affiance With KKK

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals today upheld the conviction of a Georgia sheriff and deputy convicted of denying several Negroes their constitutional rights by releasing them to the Ku Klux Klan.

Sheriff John Lynch and [illegible] William Hartline of [illegible] were convicted and sentenced to pay $1000 fines each and one year imprisonment.

The appeals court said the indictment in the case was "based on the alleged surrender of the (Negro) prisoners by the officers to a group of persons, disguised in the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan, to be beaten."

Burning of the cross.—This picture was taken Friday night when a cross was burned at a home under construction in an area between College Hills and East Thomas. (Photo by James Kimberly.)

Cross burned at residence under construction here

Public Safety Commissioner Eugene Connor Saturday instructed the Birmingham Police Department to "get to the bottom" of a cross-burning on the foundation of a home being built in an area between College Hills and East Thomas.

The home is being built at 1112 Arkadelphia Road, next door to the Freewill Baptist Church. It is a white church.

The scene is about 10 blocks from the "Dynamite Hill" area where several houses have been bombed and burned in recent months.

* * *

NEIGHBORS said they saw the cross afire only a short time after a weekly prayer meeting was held at the church Friday night.

Perry Frederick, 1101 Arkadelphia Road, said he noticed the flames from his second-story bedroom across the street. The cross was fashioned from two-by-fours about eight feet wide and 10 feet high, he said.

The cross was burned near the rear of the foundation. Construction of the foundation was begun only this week, neighbors said.

* * *

THE REV. ARTHUR BARKER, who conducted the prayer meeting Friday night at the church next door, said he left soon after the services and did not know of the incident.

Neighbors said the cross burned for about 30 minutes before police arrived and extinguished the flames.

H. J. Tillia, Birmingham, home builder, said he already has built and sold 10 homes to Negroes in the area. The block on three sides is inhabited by Negroes, he said. White homes are located across the street on the fourth side of the block, on Arkadelphia Road.

The home at 1112 Arkadelphia, Mr. Tillia said, would be the first Negro home on that side of the street and it would face the white homes.

"I have had no signs of any objections to building the home beside the church," Mr. Tillia said. "If it will settle the matter, I will be glad to sell the home, when it is completed, to a white person," he added.

From where I stand

Burning crosses flare prematurely at spots in county

BY VULCAN

THOSE CROSSES burned the other night in and around Jefferson County flared prematurely.

You and I heard a lot about cross-burnings, whippings and such-like in that hectic Summer of 1949 when gangs of men put on white sheets and went out to whip folks for sin.

VULCAN

Then there came the Ku Klux Klan trials, and the long sessions with William Hugh Morris, the head of the Federated Ku Klux Klan.

William Hugh Morris, you remember, is the Gardendale roofing contractor who spent some time in jail before he finally agreed to come forth with a Klan roster.

I saw William Hugh downtown the other day, a short, bald man with an Alabama sunflush across his face and a pair of brown eyes that are always serious . . . even when he laughs.

William Hugh was lighting a pipe and talking about some "plans" for the rejuvenation of the Klan.

"You can look to see something big happen in about a couple of weeks," he was saying. "I can't say just what. Time is not ripe yet. But something is in the making."

Morris says his Klan will not go in for whipping or otherwise meting out punishment to violators of the 10 Commandments or the laws of man.

"There are important things to attend to without going after isolated moral cases," William Hugh said, "I don't approve of it, and we don't want the kind of people who want to put on a robe and go out and whip somebody."

* * *

Everybody hates Reds

I HAVE A STRONG hunch the Klan will be taking up the hue and cry against communism and Communists. Everybody is doing it these days.

Personally, I don't think we need a Ku Klux Klan to fight the Communists.

And I am fearful that William Hugh Morris is overly-optimistic when he says the Klan does not want folks who like to go out and punish evil-doers of various kinds.

When you have a secret organization like the Ku Klux Klan all too often there are people who sneak in and sneak out to do a job to gratify personal malice or misguided self-righteousness.

* * *

Full of dangers

WHEN COMMUNISM was a threat in the Germany of the Weimar Republic, an organization was formed to fight the Reds—the Brown Shirts.

I have no doubt a good many patriotic Germans joined up to fight the Communists, then found themselves led by those who wanted to smash in some noses, and not always Communist noses at that.

The Ku Klux Klan has been revived time after time with avowed patriotic purposes in mind—but always to slip into a mire of disgusting excess.

I wish people like William Hugh Morris who want to combat the dangers of communism would try it some other way than through a robed order.

The best way in the world to crush communism is to help see that the American system works with understanding and charity.

Two flogging trials delayed; cases reset for week of March 5

The trials of two flogging case defendants were postponed yesterday after the defense reported it did not wish to proceed because of the absence of important defense witnesses.

Solicitor Emmett Perry announced all the flogging and related cases will be placed on the docket for the week of March 5. The prosecuting attorney said Deputy Solicitor Cecil Deason has been instructed to set all the cases and try them in order.

The cases on the docket yesterday were against A. B. Carradine and Bret Brasfield. Carradine has already been convicted in one case of attempted flogging and fined $500 and given a six months jail term.

THERE ARE STILL 18 defendants to face trial in one or more cases for offenses allegedly committed in the Spring of 1949. All cases grew out of the flogging of individuals by masked mobs.

Still on the books are a total of 40 cases of flogging while masked, burglary and boycotting, all arising from the series of raids by hooded night riders.

Two other charges against Brookside Police Chief Elmer Brock are set for trial at the same time as the flogging cases. In one case Brock is charged with neglect of duty and in a second with intimidating a witness. The charges were brought against Brock after a Ku Klux Klan demonstration in Brookside.

42 masked flogging cases to be resumed here next Monday

The trial of defendants charged with masked flogging and related offenses is scheduled to be resumed Monday in Circuit Court.

So far, six of the 48 indictments have been tried. There are 42 more on the books.

The indictments were brought by the Grand Jury following an outbreak of flogging and night riding terrorism in the county in early 1949. There were 18 persons named as defendants.

In the trials so far, four defendants have been acquitted, one ended in a mistrial and one was convicted on a charge of assault with attempt to flog. That defendant was A. B. Carradine, who was fined $500 and given a six months jail term.

Cases are scheduled for Monday against Richard Lollar, Coleman A. (Brownie) Lollar, Albert Swindle, Carradine, Roy G. Landrum, Moody Nations, R. C. Lyons, Bret Brasfield, Cliff Dozier, Henry Nelson, James F. Shaffer, Bernice O. Black, Walter Moore, Bill Byrd, Mel Fields, V. C. McCluskey and Elmer B. Brock.

Flogging Trials Are Delayed In Jefferson

BIRMINGHAM, March 5—(AP)—Defense attempts to round up more witnesses Monday delayed start of a new series of Jefferson County flogging trials until Tuesday.

Circuit Judge Alta L. King allowed the first defendant called, Moody Nations, additional time to locate them. His case had been scheduled to begin Monday.

Nations was indicted for the alleged flogging of Mary Alice Henderson. He was one of 18 men against whom a county grand jury returned indictments following an outbreak of masked violence two years ago.

Woman Tells Of Flogging

BIRMINGHAM, March 7—(AP)—Mary Alice Henderson, 26, Wednesday testified she was flogged by masked men during a 1949 outbreak of masked violence near here.

Miss Henderson was a witness as a new series of Jefferson County flogging trials got under way Wednesday.

Moody Nations, one of 18 men indicted by a grand jury which investigated the night riding terror, is the defendant. Only one conviction has been obtained against the defendants in seven trials.

This is Nations' first time to stand trial.

Irving Leon Key, Houston, Texas, night club operator and a former Klansman, testified that Nations was present in the hooded group that flogged Miss Henderson and Jack Alexander, now of Jasper.

Key was a former resident of the west Jefferson County section where the alleged incident took place.

Willie Stevens testified he also was whippel by night marauders and saw beatings given to Miss Henderson and Alexander.

Bobby Alexander, young son of Jack Alexander, told the jury his father was dragged away by a band which broke into their home.

The woman testified at an earlier trial that she was whipped because she was "going with Jack." Alexander was a state witness Wednesday also.

Deputy Solicitor Cecil Deason said the state would rest its case against Nations sometime Thursday.

The trial is being conducted before Circuit Judge Alta L. King.

State gets belated start in latest flogging trial

The state got a belated start today in the trial of Moody Nations, charged with the masked flogging of Mary Alice Henderson.

The case was delayed yesterday when the Henderson woman, the state's first witness, and Willie Stevens, another important state witness, failed to appear. They were sought throughout the day and finally located about 4 p.m. after Judge Alta L. King had called off the trial for the day.

The witnesses told the court they had had car trouble and had been unable to get to court.

Judge King said he wanted to be sure they would be on hand when trial started at 9 a.m. today. He ordered both of them held in jail overnight without bond.

Both witnesses were in the Courthouse Monday, when the case was postponed until Tuesday because it was too late to call a jury after the preliminaries were finished.

Mary Alice Henderson, 26, of Praco, was flogged along with Jack Alexander, by a band of hooded masked men who took them from Alexander's home, May 19, 1949. Stevens was flogged at the same time by the estimated 75 to 100 robed night riders.

Of the 48 indictments brought against 18 defendants, six cases have been tried. Four of them ended in "not guilty" verdicts, one in a mistrial and one in conviction of A. B. Caradine on a charge of attempted flogging. Caradine got a six months' jail sentence and a fine of $500.

Wheeler denies bid—

Flog case attorneys try to delay trial after Klan gathering

Efforts by defense attorneys to use newspaper stories of a Ku Klux Klan gathering last night to delay the opening of a masked flogging trial, failed in Circuit Court today.

Judge Robert J. Wheeler, denied the surprise motion made by attorneys for the three defendants in the case, and ordered the trial to continue as scheduled.

Immediately after denying the defense motion, Judge Wheeler ordered prospective jurors to be brought into the courtroom.

Striking of a jury got under way almost immediately.

The three men on trial today are Brett Brasfield, Moody Nations and A. B. (Boyd) Caradine.

* * *

ALL ARE CHARGED with participating in a series of masked floggings in Jefferson County in 1949.

The motion to delay the opening of the trial was brought by Attorneys Roderick Beddow, Jim Gibson and George Rogers.

The three attorneys who represent the men charged with the masked floggings told the court that newspaper stories appearing today about a Klan gathering at New Merkle yesterday might prejudice the minds of jurors against their clients.

The attorneys referred to a gathering last night at Wooten's Chapel Church at New Merkle, were 35 hooded and robed men wearing the garb of the Ku Klux Klan attended services and spoke out against Negroes, Jews and Catholics.

In past trials the state has won a conviction against Caradine and one trial (of Caradine) ended in a mistrial when the jury was unable to reach a decision. Five other cases have ended in not guilty verdicts.

State to rest mob violence case against Nations today

The state expects to rest its case today against Moody Nations, charged with flogging Mary Alice Henderson on the night of May 19, 1949, in a wooded section near Pumpkin Center.

Yesterday the flogging victim told of the flogging by a group of masked, robed men, who took her from the home of Jack Alexander, near Praco. Alexander was also flogged on the same night.

Another state witness also flogged by the same mob testified he saw the Henderson woman and Alexander whipped with a strap. He said he was whipped with the leather strap after his clothing was removed and while hooded men sat on his head and arms.

IRVING LEON KEY, a night club operator in Houston, Tex., testified that Nations was present in the crowd of robed men the night of the flogging. Key said he once was a member of the Ku Klux Klan at Adamsville.

Bobby Alexander, son of Jack Alexander, told of seeing the white-robed figures take his father from their home on the night of the flogging.

The trial got under way at 9 a.m. yesterday, after Tuesday's session was held up due to the absence of the Henderson woman and Willie Stevens. Both witnesses were sent to jail by Circuit Judge Alta L. King, and kept there until trial time yesterday.

Deputy Solicitor Cecil M. Deason said he would rest his case during the day.

Nations is being defended by Roderick Beddow, George Rogers and Jim Gibson.

Final arguments are begun in Moody Nations flog trial

Final arguments started this morning in the trial of Moody Nations, Flat Creek, charged with the masked flogging of Mary Alice Henderson, 26, Praco, on the night of May 20, 1949.

Nations, a commissary operator, testified yesterday that he held membership in the Robert E. Lee Klavern of the Ku Klux Klan but that his membership expired on March 31, 1949, nearly two months prior to the flogging.

Nations said yesterday that on the night of May 20, 1949, he took his wife to Quinton, to a beauty parlor. He said he waited several hours while his wife's hair was being fixed.

Mrs. Warren G. Vandiver, operator of the beauty parlor, testified that while she fixed Mrs. Nation's hair, Moody Nations helped Mr. Vandiver unload some produce from a truck. They left at 10 p.m., according to testimony.

* * *

THE DEFENSE rested its case as court closed at 4:30 p.m. yesterday. Several character witnesses were paraded to the witness stand during the defense testimony yesterday, and testified to the good character of the defendant.

George Rogers, one of Nations' three defense lawyers, also took the witness stand yesterday to testify about testimony given in an earlier flogging trial in which he was defense attorney. He said Mary Alice Henderson and Irene Leon Key, defense witnesses, gave conflicting testimony in the trial of Coleman A. (Brownie) Lollar. Rogers said Key testified the Henderson woman and Jack Alexander were taken from a bed on the night of the flogging.

The Henderson woman testified that both she and Alexander were fully clothed and were sitting on the porch of Alexander's home when the hooded, robed men came and took them to Pumpkin Center and whipped them with a leather strap.

Defense Attys. Rogers, Roderick Beddow and Jim Gibson all are scheduled to speak before the jury. The prosecution is being handled by Deputy Solicitor Cecil M. Deason.

Results In Prosecuting Hooded Violence

It is deeply regrettable, of course, that only one conviction has been obtained in the cases growing out of the hooded violence which besmirched Jefferson County in the early months of 1949. The vast majority of our people would have been deeply gratified, we are confident, to have seen every guilty person adequately punished. But now, after another not guilty verdict, in the eighth proceeding, with only one conviction and one mistrial—the prosecutor's office recommended dropping of the remaining 41 indictments. Judge Wheeler concurred.

This paper believes Solicitor Perry, Deputy Solicitor Cecil Deason and their staff have made an earnest, vigorous effort to find and punish those who committed these outrageous acts. It is understandable, however, that developing evidence that will convince juries is unusually hard in such cases. Fear, disinclination to become involved in such proceedings and difficulties of positive identification are among many factors that handicap such efforts.

Our county system for collecting evidence in difficult cases long has been in need of strengthening, particularly in more trained investigators for the sheriff's office.

Even though only one conviction was obtained, it has been impressively demonstrated that the law is not indifferent to such outrages, that resolute efforts will be made to find and punish those responsible for any such law violations. That is a result of primary importance in itself.

It is an impressive fact that after the indictments started coming in, the violence ceased and such activities virtually ended.

Further, an aroused public sentiment led to action by the Legislature outlawing the use of the mask in Alabama, except under certain circumstances.

The Ku Klux Klan seems lately to have been decidedly on the wane in this area—as elsewhere.

Thus there are some substantial reasons for satisfaction in the way this flare-up of cowardly, hooded violence was dealt with.

Mr. Perry, Mr. Deason and their associates are to be commended for their contributions to these results. Their decision to drop the remaining indictments was made, we believe, in the best of faith and with careful, realistic consideration of what would be best for the community and the law.

Not guilty verdict causes state to drop 41 flog cases

BY EDWIN STRICKLAND
News staff writer

Only one case out of 48 original indictments which followed in wake of series of masked mob incidents in Jefferson County in early 1949, remains active today.

The rest of the docket was cleared late yesterday when Deputy Solicitor Cecil M. Deason asked Circuit Judge Robert J. Wheeler to nol-pros some 41 flogging cases and related cases remaining on the docket.

Deason's action came immediately after a jury in Judge Wheeler's court had returned a not guilty verdict for Bret Brasfield, charged with flogging Jack Alexander, Praco miner.

Still in court is the lone case in which the state was able to win a conviction out of eight trials.

A. B. (Bird) Caradine, West Jefferson school bus driver, was found guilty of attempting to flog Alexander. The jury assessed a $500 fine and Judge Alta L. King added a six months jail term.

Caradine's attorney, Jim Gibson, took an appeal and Caradine has been free on bond. Now a motion for a new trial is pending before Judge King.

* * *

IN ASKING that the remainder of the cases be dropped, Deason reviewed the history of the 48 indictments and the efforts of the state to win convictions. He said that in seven out of eight cases the state has failed to meet the burden of proof as required by law.

"There are 72 citizens of this county who have deliberated . . . and have said that the state failed to convince them beyond a reasonable doubt and to a moral certainty that these individuals are guilty as charged in the indictment.

Deason noted that the Grand Jury had returned a great number of indictments in July, 1949, after a series of floggings in the county. In all there were 48 such indictments brought against 18 individuals.

Deason told the court that he was recommending nol-prossing the cases, "realizing that the solicitor's office has done its just duty and knowing that I have prosecuted these cases to the best of my ability."

JUDGE WHEELER complimented Deason on his courage in making the decision.

"I think it takes a lot of courage for a young man to stand up and say what the solicitor has said today," Wheeler said. "I am of the same opinion that Mr. Deason is, and I will certainly enter these orders on your recommendation."

Brasfield went on trial Monday and his case went to the jury shortly before 3 p.m. yesterday. The defendant did not take the stand, but defense witnesses offered alibi testimony that Brasfield was on a fishing trip near Calera at the time of the flogging on May 20, 1949.

Brasfield was defended by Attys. Jim Gibson, Roderick Beddow and George Rogers.

The action by the Grand Jury in indicting the 18 defendants, marked the end of mob incidents in this county. Only on two or three occasions since that time have bands wearing the garb of the Ku Klux Klan made public appearances.

Unmasking Proposal Made By Klansman

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—The Ku Klux Klan doesn't mind standing for its own acts of violence, but it doesn't want to be accused of the acts of others.

As a protection against false charges, Bill Hendrix, of Tallahassee, grand dragon of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, last week proposed an anti-masked ordinance to the City Council.

Hendrix explained that the Klan wants the ordinance "to keep our enemies from committing acts of violence and laying it on the Klan."

The proposal was referred to a committee for study.

Miami Klan Meet Draws Only 550

MIAMI, Fla., May 26—(AP)—Fifty policemen were called out Saturday night to guard against trouble as the Ku Klux Klan held a public meeting in the northwest section of Miami, but there were no demonstrations.

A small, apathetic crowd estimated by Assistant Police Chief J. A. Youell at 550 huddled around a sound truck on a vacant lot behind a grocery store to hear speeches by two Florida Klan leaders.

Approximately 50 of these were newspaper reporters and photographers and television cameramen.

The meeting lasted less than one hour.

The KKK's Grand Dragon of Florida, Bill Hendrix of Tallahassee, was the principal speaker. Tom Hamilton, Grand Dragon of South Carolina, who lives in Leesburg, was unable to attend because of illness.

Fiery crosses outlawed

LAKELAND, Fla., July 26—(AP)—Anyone convicted of burning a cross in Lakeland, now is subject to as much as 60 days in jail. Anyone giving information leading to a cross-burning conviction gets a $100 reward.

Stetson Kennedy Is Rated Number-One Klan Buster

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—(NNPA)—Stetson Kennedy, the author of "Southern Exposure" who has been rated the nation's No. 1 Klan-buster by none other than the grand dragon, returned to his home in St. Johns County, Fla., last week to find that the Ku Kluxers had raided the place, destroying his files and stealing everything, including the kitchen sink.

Gaining entry to the premises by attacking doors and locks with an axe, the Kluxers, evidently enraged to find that Kennedy's documentary evidence against the Ku Klux Klan had been put into safe storage, proceeded to dump his other files into a nearby creek. Then they made off with everything removable--furniture, electric pumping system, citrus trees, fence, and cup hooks.

Although the prevailing officer in Klan circles is $"1,000 per pound for Kennedy's posterior, FOB Atlanta," he has resumed residence in the heart for KKK territory after a visit to New York to seek a publisher for his new book, "Jim Crow Guide to the USA," written in collaboration with Elizabeth Gardner.

Arriving with his wife and son, Kennedy found the turpentine community rife with threats that he would "burn out" (last year a fire of undetermined origin" swept much of his property, but he succeeded in putting it out before it reached his dwelling.)

Kennedy's colored neighbors and some whites, however, have let it be known that he is "not without friends."

At the risk of having their credit shut off at the general store, and other reprisals, some had written him of the open threats that "becuase he is for the n——s, he'd better not come back."

The Kennedy are determined to hold their ground, even though they are having to sleep on the floor, cook outdoors, and bathe in the creek.

The raid has been reported to the sheriff at St. Augustine, but little action is expected from that quarter since it was he who ordered Kennedy's arrest last year on an untenable charge under the election laws. Kennedy's actual offense was running as a "color-blind candidate" for the United States on tht platform "not white supremacy but right supremacy."

At the time of his arrest he narrowly escaped mob action, and sentiment against him is still running high.

Florida is to get two additional Representatives in Congress under the 1951 Reapportionment Act, and Kennedy has announced his intention of seeking one of the seats next year.

He has just launched an organization called "Latter-Day Abolitionists," whose initial aim it is to make Florida a demonstration state for methods of encouraging mass registration of colored persons as voters. The group is offering "First Class Citizens" certificates to all who register, and is urging the churches to set aside "registration weeks," climaxed by parties open to those who can produce registration receipts.

Klansmen Deny Knowledge Of KKK Burnings

MIAMI, Fla.—(INS)— Three admitted members of the Ku Klu Klan Monday denied any knowledge of two giant K's which were burned in the Miami area over the weekend.

Chief Criminal Deputy O. D. Henderson said the men were arrested near the scene of one of the six-foot objects Saturday. Henderson said the men claimed they were "investigating" the demonstration.

He identified them as Talmadge Luttrell, Eugene K. Garber and T. McCallum.

Leaflets of an anti-semitic nature bearing the mark of the Klan, were found in the area, but the trio was unable to explain how the leaflets happened to be in the vicinity.

Symbols similar to the ones burned in Miami also were set afire over the weekend in Lakeland, Orlando and Fort Myers. Anti-semitic material also was distributed in Orlando.

A recently-passed state law specifically bans the public burning of crosses—former mark of Klan activity—but does not apply to similar objects.

Florida Klan Denies It Burned Crosses

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., July 15 (U.P.)—Florida's organized Ku Klux Klan denied to day that it was responsible for the burning of four huge wooden "Ks" at widely-separated spots in Miami, Fla., last night.

Police said the fuel soaked, eight-foot "Ks" did not appear to have been directed particularly at inhabitants of the four sections, but one of them bore a race hatred inscription.

Bill Hendrix, Florida grand dragon, declared his organization knew nothing about the emblem burnings, although at one site someone had scattered leaflets bearing Hendrix's name.

The FBI noted the arrest of two men by Miami police shortly after the burnings but did not question the men, and they were released. The FBI did not express any intention of investigating further.

Fla. Cross Burnings Baffle City Officials

ORLANDO, Fla.—Police and city officials are in the dark as to who is burning fiery crosses here. They are vexed because one of the crosses was burned on the lawn of the Municipal utilities plant.

Mayor William Beardall admitted he and a number of other citizens received pink printed sheets designed to stir up race trouble. Some came through the mail, he said. The mayor said all information printed on the sheets was false.

Unidentified Hood Cuts Fla. Student

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Police and NAACP officials are continuing an investigation of the unprovoked attack on a young veteran student at Bethune Cookman College who was slashed by an unidentified white man at an Ormond tourist camp, near here.

The student, Roger Paschal of Miami, was attacked from the rear by one of a group of white men who walked past him as he waited for a companion, Calvin Mapp, also of Miami and a student at Bethune Cookman, outside the grounds of the camp, which they sought permission to explore.

20 itnesses Testify

A group of more than 20 witnesses went to Deland July 26 to give testimony in the office of State's Attorney M. Sams who, along with Chief of Police Roger A. Willis of Ormond and Harry T. Moore of Miami, State secretary of the NAACP, is conducting the investigation.

Other wintesses called to Deland were J. C. Thompson and Norman Dixon, members of the college faculty, and some 20 summer school students. Chief Willis has promised to put forth every effort to bring the guilty party to justice. The NAACP is co-operating fully.

Fla. Klan Gets Warning From Gun Collector

LAKELAND, Fla. The yard of a Lakeland businesswoman was the scene of a recent Ku Klux Klan cross burning.

Mrs. Charles G. Kennard, manager of a local clothing store, said evidently her house was selected for the cross burning incident because a Negro man who has been employed by the Kennards for 12 years, has living quarters there.

She said the hooded order's literature had been placed under the door of her store several times and that a female employee, discharged several years ago, promised to "get the Klan after" the Negro houseman.

Mrs. Kennard declared she's prepared to take action against anyone who tries violence against any. She says there are 15 guns in her home. Her 20-year-old son is a gun collector.

Proposed Klan Meet Hits Snag In Miami

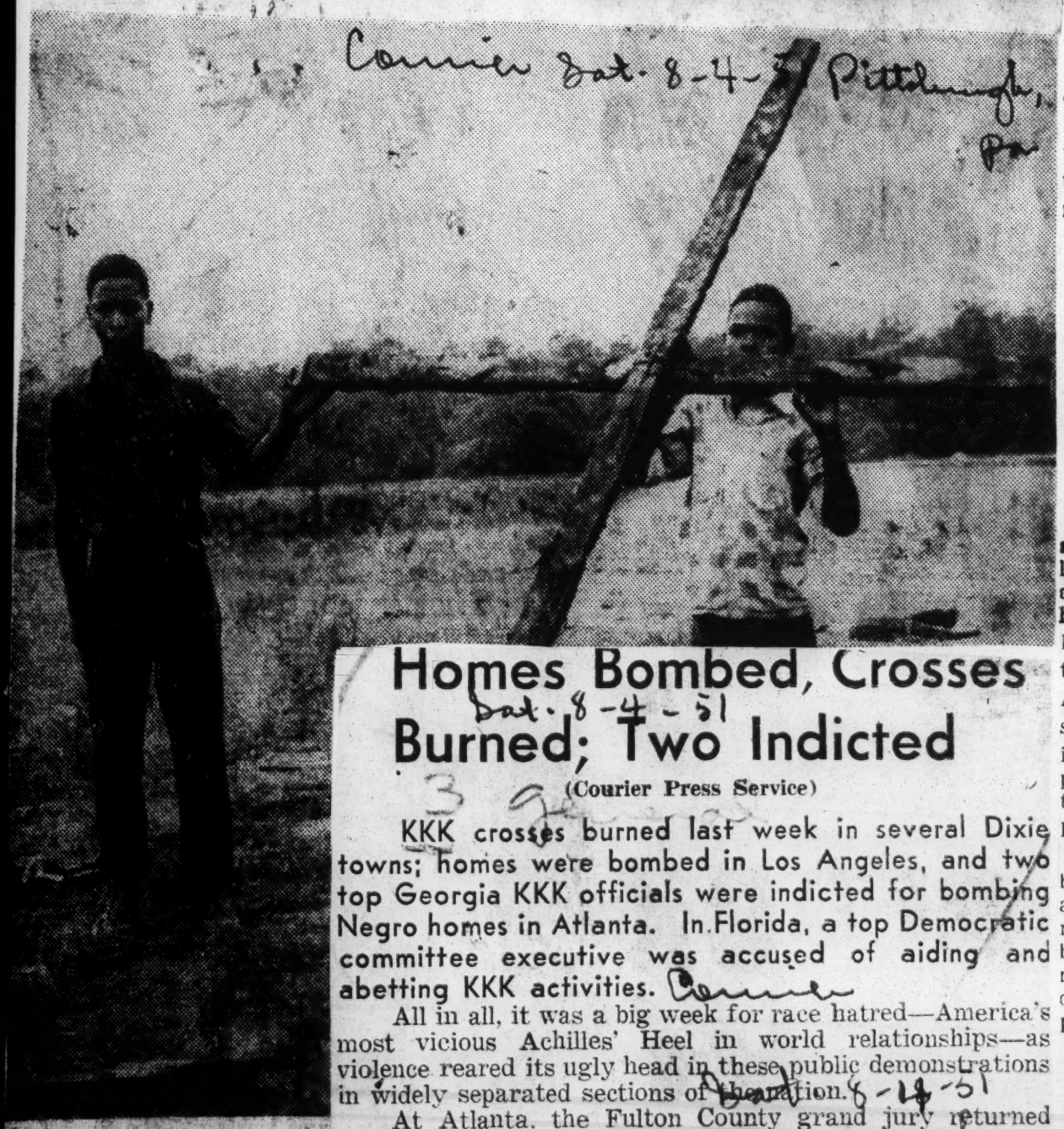
WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The owner of an amusement park which reportedly was to be the site of a Ku Klux Klan meeting Monday threw cold water on the plans by denying the group the right to gather on his property.

A. M. Watson, part-owner of "the Grove" near West Palm Beach, said he had no information about a meeting scheduled for tonight. Watson said he would tell Palm Beach County Sheriff John Kirk to keep the Klan members from entering the area.

News of the meeting was released by a West Palm Beach man. He said a general meeting attended by a Grand Dragon would be held in the park, but added that no memberships would be solicited.

According to the unnamed spokesman for the Klan, a Grand Dragon connected with the Georgia Klan would deliver a speech entitled "Americanism and why the Klan is needed today."

KKK Struts Again!



Believe Ku Klux Klan Burned This Cross in Atlanta, Ga.

Homes Bombed, Crosses Burned; Two Indicted

(Courier Press Service)

KKK crosses burned last week in several Dixie towns; homes were bombed in Los Angeles, and two top Georgia KKK officials were indicted for bombing Negro homes in Atlanta. In Florida, a top Democratic committee executive was accused of aiding and abetting KKK activities.

All in all, it was a big week for race hatred—America's most vicious Achilles' Heel in world relationships—as violence reared its ugly head in these public demonstrations in widely separated sections of the nation.

At Atlanta, the Fulton County grand jury returned indictments against two Atlanta Klansmen on felony charges in connection with the bombing of Negro homes on East Avenue some time ago. The bombings touched off grave tension which rocked the Atlanta area for several weeks.

Indicted were Charles H. (Chuck) Klein, imperial kligrapp (secretary) and second in command to Imperial Wizard Sam Roper, a former Atlanta detective, and James Knight, a garage mechanic. They were "fingered" by two former Klansmen who testified before the grand jury.

Five Negroes were serving on that grand jury.

The two ex-Klansmen—George D. Sligh, a former exalted cyclops of Oakland City Klavern, and W. M. Bruce of Morrow, gave thier testimony as a result of activities begun by a white Atlanta newspaperman, Bob Collins.

Klein revealed that he is a member of the White Citizens Committee which met recently to halt Negroes from moving into the northeast area in which the bombings took place, but denied he had anything to do with the bombings. He lives at 523 Forrest Road, N. E., his property abutting that of 524 East Avenue, which was one of the Negro homes bombed.

According to indictment Knight and Klein "did wilfully and maliciously attempt to destroy and did wilfully injure the dwelling house of Scott Brooks, Lillian Brooks, Glenn Brooks and Ernestine Brooks, located at 524 East Avenue," with an "explosive substance" being used in the bombing. Penalty if convicted is a prison term of from one to twenty years.

L. A. BOMBINGS

Far away on the Pacific Coast, bombs ripped the house of a Japanese doctor, Dr. M. C. Matsumoto, and another home owned by a real estate dealer on Dunsmuir Avenue after "Negroes stay off Dunsmuir" warnings had been posted in the area.

Police and fire department officials concluded that the bombings were the result of racial antagonism. Mrs. Sally Manoway, the realtor, said someone had phoned a warning to her saying: "If you sell houses to colored people, we'll fix you."

Sticks of dynamite rammed into lengths of iron pipe made up the bombs used in Los Angeles. Police are patroling the area, but Negro purchasers and Dr. Matsumoto have not been intimidated. The doctor said he would move back into his home as soon as repairs are completed.

CROSSES BURN

At least a half-dozen KKK-style crosses were burned in the area in and around Birmingham, Ala. last week, although no demonstrations were reported. One was burned in the vicinity of the Municipal Airport near the National Guard Air Station.

Almost simultaneously, Alabama Klan leaders announced "new activity" by their hooded night-riders. Though there are two factions of Klansmen . . . one headed by William H. Morris, who grew notorious in "Flogging 1949," and the other by a Baptist preacher, the Rev. Alvin Horn—both have made decided gains during the year.

Three crosses were burned at Nashville, Tenn., with an investigating officer remarking that they were the largest he had ever seen. At Orlando, Fla., two more crosses flamed, and Georgia had its share. Atlanta and its vicinity was the focation for several burnings and at Moultrie, Ga., Klansmen burned a cross near a Negro veterans club where unidentified assailants had fired into a crowd the week before wounding ten persons.

Moultrie's Sheriff Olin Beverly said he had made no investigation of the incidents there because "I hadn't thought much about it."

POLITICAN ACCUSED

In New York City, the Anti-Nazi League charged that Edgar W. Waybright, chairman of the Duval County, Fla., Democratic Executive Committee had been using his party rank to promote Ku Klux Klan activities. Democratic National Committee Chairman William M. Boyle Jr., in Washington was asked to remove Waybright from office at once.

A similar request was made of Mayor Haydon Burns of Jacksonville—seat of Duval County—against Waybright, who is a Jacksonville attorney. He is also known as Imperial Wizard of the Southern Ku Klux Klan, whose official publication, "The Klansman," is published in Jacksonville. A huge "K" was burned in that city last week, and four more were burned in Miami.

Clearing Away The Klan

The Ku Klux Klan, infamous bed-sheet organization with a sanguinary past, is suffering death pangs all over the nation. Its demise in South Carolina has been hastened by an anti-masking law which was recently imposed by the state legislature.

Now the South Carolina group, in an effort to avoid the inevitable, has moved across the board to North Carolina and voiced intentions of clashing with law officers who may attempt to interfere with the hood-wearing sect. Gov Kerr of North Carolina, taking up the challenge, announced that state law officers have his full support in enforcing an old anti-masking statute.

The Klan is no longer wanted in the United States by the majority. It is questionable that the majority has ever wanted it, but it is certainly a fact that the days of this demented crew are numbered. Its presence on the American scene has meant only death and destruction and its principles have had a demoralizing effect upon the peoples of the land.

Here is one death which occasions rejoicing, for it marks the disintegration of one of the major barriers to a realization of more complete democracy. With such an organization as the Klan existing, democracy is impossible, yet, we persist in our efforts to achieve this ideal, a fact which indicates we have no intention of tolerating the bestialities that characterize the Klan or any of its counterparts.

South Carolina has been firm in its action against the Kluxers. North Carolina is asserting itself. May the day be soon when the Klan finds itself backed up to the waters of the oceans by the will of a people who wish their land free of this scourge.

The Ku Klux Klan 'Comeback'

EVER since the end of World War II, the Ku Klux Klan has been trying to stage a comeback in this country and, fortunately, to little avail.

Where it was born and had its greatest success in the past, it has definitely failed to click, and even so trouble-hunting an organization as the Anti-Defamation League has been hard put to discover any real menace from that direction.

Despite the unhappy recurrence of Klan violence in rural South Carolina (in two or three isolated communities), all evidence seems to indicate that the hooded mob has no future in Dixie.

The Legislature of Georgia has voted almost unanimously that the Klan hoods be hereafter outlawed, although similar measures were defeated in the 1949 and 1950 sessions.

Of the forty-one cities and towns in the South which have outlawed masking in the last two years, fourteen of them have been in Georgia where the Klan was reborn after World War I.

The Klan has not been able to operate in North Carolina because of the toughness of local police and the passage of ordinances outlawing masking and cross-burning; nor has it been any more acceptable in Florida which has numerous ordinances of similar nature.

This has pretty well narrowed its field of operations to Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina, and now comes Governor-elect James F. Byrnes (former Secretary of State) asking the Legislature to provide anti-Klan laws.

Nevertheless the Klan is still making efforts to ingratiate itself with the white moron element in rural South Carolina by a succession of floggings and cross-burnings in remote areas.

This will avail them nothing more than another crop of anti-Klan laws and ordinances because the South has simply outgrown the Ku Klux Klan.

Accordingly, its comeback has been a tremendous flop, so far.

There is little evidence that it will be able to ever attain the stature and influence it enjoyed in the Twenties, but for some time to come it will remain a nuisance which will have to be liquidated.

14 Fiery Crosses Burned In Alabama, Georgia, Florida

BY CLAUDE V. WARREN
International News Service Staff Correspondent

A fiery wave of Klanism rippled across the South overnight, and Kluxer bosses fell into their usual dispute last night as to responsibility.

There were 14 cross burnings, stretching from Florida thru Georgia and Alabama into Tennessee's Capital City.

Thomas L. Hamilton, who calls himself the Grand Dragon of the "Association of Carolina Klans," said the Kluxers did not set the blazes.

Alabama's Klan boss disagreed, William Hugh Morris of Birmingham said all the fires represented "renewed activity of the federated Ku Klux Klan."

Hamilton promptly denied the existence of any such "federated" group.

Samuel W. Roper, who claims to boss the Georgia Klans, said in Atlanta that the cross burnings were "to fight Communism," but Atlanta police, usually informed about such matters, claim the Klan had nothing to do with the cross burning in the Georgia capital.

In any case, at least eight crosses were burned in Alabama, three in Georgia, two in Florida and one in Tennessee.

In Alabama Thursday night and early yesterday, six crosses burned in Jefferson county, two of which were in Birmingham. Fiery symbols lighted the skies at Tuscaloosa, site of the University of Alabama, and at Talledega. At the Orlando burnings, newspaper photographer Robert E. Dittrick said he saw firemen stand by without extinguishing the symbols.

Rumors circulated in Orlando last night that more crosses will be burned by the KKK, "protesting lax law enforcement." The Florida Klan is headed by Bill Hendrix of Tallahassee, who was unavailable for comment.

Detective Lieutenant L. T. Bullard, who investigated the Atlanta cross-burning, disagreed with Georgia KKK leader Roper. Bullard said he didn't "think the Klan had anything to do with it."

In Birmingham, however, Morris declared the cross burnings meant "renewed activity of the federated Ku Klux Klan."

Carolina Klan leader Hamilton, at his Leesville, S. C., home, denied the existence of a 'federated Klan." He said:

"The only federation I know of right now is between my Carolina Klans and the Florida Klan."

He said the two operate under a joint council of six men. He denied any connection between the Carolina-Florida Klans and the Georgia group and added, "I don't know if there is any connection between our Klan and those in Alabama and Mississippi."

Klan's Crosses Blaze In 4 Southern States

By the United Press.

Fiery crosses, symbol of the Ku Klux Klan, blazed in four Southern states last night—Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Tennessee.

A huge wooden cross was burned in a Negro section of Atlanta in the first such incident reported in months.

Police Capt. E. O. Mullen said no racial trouble had been reported in the area.

Three giant crosses were burned in the suburbs of Nashville, Tenn. Police found 200 anti-communist handbills near the scene.

At least six crosses were burned in the Birmingham, Ala., area. Flames from several of the crosses, set up on high hills overlooking the city, were visible for miles.

An unidentified Klansman was quoted as saying more crosses would be burned tonight in the Orlando, Fla., area "because of lax law enforcement."

Klan had nothing to do with the cross burning in the Georgia Capital.

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INDIANAPOLIS — (INS) — There will be no revival of the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana, according to Gov. Henry F. Schricker.

After Imperial Klan Wizard Sam Roper announced in Atlanta that the group was granted permits for cross-buring in Indiana and seven other states, the Governor said:

"Our people will not permit a return of the Klan to Indiana. they have had their fill of that intolerance. I have faith that they don't want any more. The Klan is dead. If it comes to life again, it will be short-lived."

Indiana has a state law that bans the Klan.

Klan Burns 14 Crosses In 4 States

ATLANTA — (INS) — A fiery wave of Klanism rippled across the South overnight, and Kluxer bosses fell into their usual dispute last week as to responsibility.

There were 14 cross burnings stretching from Florida through Georgia and Alabama into Tennessee's capital city.

Thomas L. Hamilton, who calls himself the grand dragon of the "Association of Carolina Klans," said the kluxers did not set the blazes.

Alabama's Klan boss disagreed. William Hugh Morris of Birmingham said all the fires represented "renewed activity of the federated Ku Klux Klan."

Hamilton promptly denied the existence of any such "federated" group.

Samuel W. Roper, who claims to boss the Georgia Klans, said in Atlanta that the cross burnings were "to fight Communism," but Atlanta police, usually informed about such matters, claim the

Klansmen Flog Two Douglas County Men Saturday Night

DOUGLASVILLE, Ga. — Two colored residents of Douglas County were "taken for a ride" and severely beaten by a group of white men who identified themselves as members of the Ku Klux Klan, Saturday night, near Lithia Springs, it was disclosed Tuesday.

Douglasville County Sheriff Mack Abercrombie identified the victims as Arthur C. Cowan, employee of an Austell furniture company, who was treated at Grady Hospital after the beating and shooting, and Jesse Arnold, who was given medical care at Lithia Springs.

According to Sheriff Abercrombie the eight or nine men in the group were armed with pistols and shotguns, when they got Cowan out of his bed Saturday night. Sheriff Abercrombie quoted Cowan as saying the men identified themselves as Klansmen and instructed him to "get in the car."

After forcing Cowan into the car, attired only in underwear, the men drove to Arnold's home, two miles away. Some members of the group remained in the car, while others went inside to get Arnold. The men made no effort to conceal their faces while on their mission, Sheriff Abercrombie said.

WARNINGS IGNORED

Their destination turned out to be a site near the Mount Carmel School at Lithia Springs, where the group stopped the car and ordered Cowan and Arnold to get out. The two victims quoted one of the abductors as saying they had ignored warnings about "getting drunk and carrying on the way you do."

The members of the group then attacked the victims with gun butts, flashlights and their fists, and Cowan fled, he was felled by a shotgun blast of birdshots in the back. Bruised, battered and wounded, he was forced to walk several miles in underwear and without shoes to reach medical aid. After being given a severe beating, Arnold was permitted to go.

INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED

Douglas County authorities and agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation launched an investigation shortly after the incident was reported, Sheriff Abercrombie said. He also pointed out that Cowan and Arnold did not recognize any members of the group and could give no reason for the beating.

Members of the group wore no regalia to identify themselves as Klansmen, Sheriff Abercrombie said. He added, the abductors evidently were from another county since both Cowan and Arnold have resided in Douglas County most of their lives and would have recognized local men.

"There is absolutely no excuse for this," Sheriff Abercrombie declared, "and we intend to go to the bottom of it."

"I've never known of Cowan drinking or causing any trouble of any kind," he continued.

"Arnold has been arrested for drinking a couple of times. But as far as we can find, there is no connection between Cowan and Arnold as they did not visit and did not run around together."

"I am not sure yet who is responsible for this, but the ones who are responsible, whether they are Klans men or not, should be run out of the country. This kind of thing won't be tolerated in Douglas County," Sheriff Abercrombie declared.

Cowan and his wife live in a small home in the rear of a white family at Lithia Springs. Mrs. Cowan takes care of the white lady who is an invalid, while her husband has been employed for years as delivery man for Austell furniture company.

Klan Head Denies Knowledge Of West-Side Cross Burning

BY GEORGE COLEMAN

According to detectives, investigating the Wednesday night burning of a cross in a field near a Negro neighborhood, no evidence has been uncovered to show any trace of racial friction in that section of the city.

City Detective J. E. Helms said Thursday that he was not prepared to state the reason for the cross burning, but did not believe it was caused by trouble between Negroes and whites.

Meanwhile, a World reporter, in an interview with C. H. Klein, executive secretary of the Association of Georgia Klans, at the klan headquarters, 847 1-2 Gordon St., S. W., was told that the cross burning was not inspired by his organization.

"All we know about the incident was what we read in the paper," the Ku Klux Klan official said.

He denied that the cross burning was connected with the klan.. "If klansmen burned the cross," Klein stated, "they had permission."

The klansman, commenting on the incident, said he doesn't think the cross was burned in that area for the purpose of creating terror.

"Any time a Negro is whipped or a cross is burned, the klan gets blamed," he observed.

Samuel Roper, former police detective and top official of the Association of Georgia Klans, was not available for comment when the reporter sought comments from high klan officials.

There were indications of union trouble at one of the trucking firms in the vicinity of the cross burning. Unofficial sources said the firm had moved to Atlanta after some of its trucks were burned, and since then had trouble with unions. A resident of the area said she saw a man recently carrying an "unfair" sign on the property. Other sources indicated the trucking company was picketed recently.

Detective Helms stated the cross was not hurriedly prepared. Made from sections of a piece of two-by-four timber, the giant cross was put together with screws and bolts. Helms added a post hole digger was used to plant the cross. The kerosene soaked rags were tied to the post with wire.

The huge cross was burned late Wednesday night in a field under construction for a trucking company on University Ave., S. W., near Booker Ave., S. W

The scene was first visited by Radio Patrolmen G. T. Hodges and H. G. Tuggle, who reported that the cross was practically burned out when they arrived. They questioned several residents of the area who said the cross could be seen for several blocks sometime after 10 p. m.

There were indications of union trouble at one of the trucking firms, constructing a building in this area. Unofficial sources said the company has been picketed recently by union members.

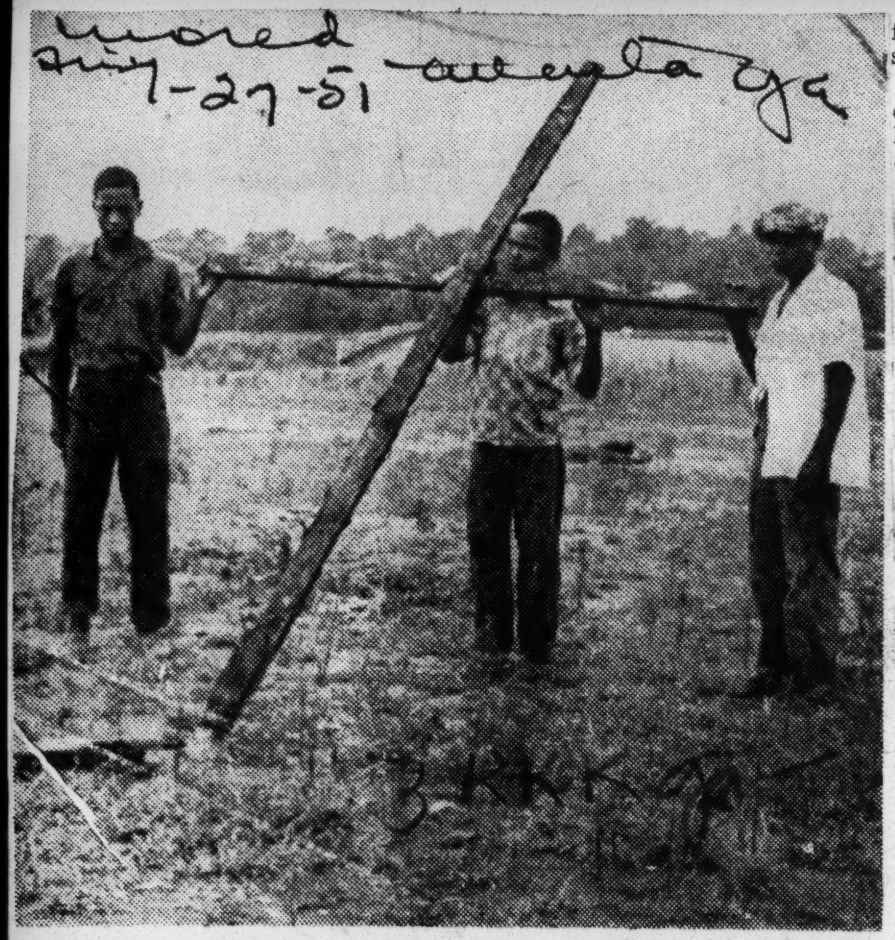
Cross-Burning At Macon Is Reported

MACON, Sept. 23—(INS)—Bibb County deputy sheriffs Sunday reported a cross-burning in the front yard of a home near Macon—but they took no action on the complaint.

Deputies Raymond Harshaw and Sam Riley investigated a complaint that a cross had been set afire in the yard. The occupant of the house assured them the cross was burned at his request.

He explained, the deputies said, that his wife "wanted to see what a cross-burning looked like." So he telephoned a friend who is a member of the Ku Klux Klan and ordered a demonstration.

The deputies said the incident occurred on private property with the permission of the occupant and thus constituted no violation of the law.



THESE ARE THE REMAINS OF THE GIANT CROSS burned late Wednesday night in a field near University Avenue, S. W. No reason has been unearthed for the burning. The Ku Klux Klan denies any knowledge of the incident. There are also indications of union trouble at a truck company near the place the cross was burned. Three unidentified youngsters are shown holding the cross. — (Perry Photo)

Dixie Sheriff Probes Beating Of Two Men

DOUGLASVILLE, Ga. (ANP)— A group of eight or nine whites last week brutally beat two Negro men in the middle of the night for apparently no reason. They were not masked, but claimed to be members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Sheriff Mack Abercrombie of Douglas county declared that his men would seek to capture the men immediately, and said they deserved to be run out of the county.

Victims of the midnight ride were Arthur C. Cowan and Jesse Arnold Cowan, an employe of the Austell Furniture Company, was taken to Grady hospital. He was beaten and shot in the back with a shotgun blast. Arnold was beaten.

Neither victim could identify any of his attackers. Here is the story of their ride of terror in the black Georgia midnight:

Ignored Warnings

Eight or nine men who did not hide their faces picked up Cowan in his home, forcing him to enter an automobile with nothing on but his underwear. They drove two miles down the road where they picked up Arnold.

Then the whites "explained" that the Negroes had "ignored" warnings "about getting drunk and carrying on like you do."

Suddenly the Negroes felt the butts of guns, flashlights, and fists bashing in their faces. Cowan ran, but was halted by the shotgun in the back. With nothing on but his underwear; he then struggled in his bare feet to get medical aid.

Arnold was beaten some more, then freed.

Sheriff Abercrombie stood up for the character of Cowan. He said:

"I've never know of Cowan drinking or causing trouble of any kind. Arnold has been arrested a couple of times, but as far as we can find there is no connection between Cowan and Arnold. They didn't visit and did not run around together.

KKK Crosses Flare

Ga. Man Flogged

SWAINSBORO, Ga.—Robed, but unmasked, white men last week flogged a Negro man here in what appeared to be a housing controversy. The victim was identified as Otis Jordan, a resident of a section on old Kite Road.

He was said to have been beaten so severely that hospital treatment was required.

Between 200 and 300 robed men burned crosses in front of Negro homes in the section, warning them to move within fifteen days.

POLICE UNRUFFLED

The flogging and cross burnings were reported to apparently unruffled police by Mrs. Edsel Dawkins, white owner of fifteen houses in the section which was entirely Negro at one time.

During World War II some of the houses were rented to white families because of the housing shortage. Several had been vacant and Mrs. Dawkins and Hugh Jenkins, who owns a larger number of houses across the street from the Dawkins' property, have been re-renting them to Negroes.

Since the flogging and cross-burning the owners have appealed to city and county authorities to help in returning the section to an all-Negro neighborhood. They prepared to issue eviction papers on the nine white families still in the area.

Confirmation of the cross-burning was made by Lieut. W. E. McDuffie of the George Bureau of Investigation. The GBI officer said the large cross was eight or ten feet high and appeared to be wrapped in burlap sacks. He claimed he had not heard reports that a Negro man was beaten.

SOME "WHIPPED"

Sheriff Peyton Youmans of Emanuel County, said he had learned "one or two Negroes were whipped," but that he had no other details. However, Lieutenant McDuffie reported his understanding that the robed men, apparently Klansmen, met in the Swainsboro Courthouse Square before the visit to the Kite Road Section. The GBI official said the cross-burning was in city limits and outside jurisdiction of the state highway patrol.

Swainsboro Police Chief stated he had heard about the cross-burnings, but that he had received no report of beatings. Night policeman Joe Brown Hall denied any violence occurred. Officials denied recognition of any of the hooded band.

Owner, Mrs. Dawkins, said the section was not suitable for white families. She declared also that building of new homes had offered better quarters for white tenants.

Group Claiming Selves Klansmen Beats 2 Negroes

Incident Near Lithia Springs; Shotgun Blast Hits One Victim

By KEELER McCARTNEY

DOUGLASVILLE, Feb. 6—A group of white men identifying themselves as members of the Ku Klux Klan severely mauled two Negro men near Lithia Springs Saturday night and fired a shotgun blast into the back of one, it was revealed Tuesday.

Arthur C. Cowan, an Austell furniture company employee, was treated at Grady Hospital after the beating and shooting, Douglas County Sheriff Mack Abercrombie said. He added the second, Jessie Arnold, was given medical attention at Lithia Springs.

Douglas County authorities and agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation began an investigation soon after the incident was reported Saturday, Abercrombie related. He said, however, Cowan and Arnold did not recognize any members of the group and could give no reason for the beating.

Armed with pistols and shotguns, eight or nine men appeared at the home of Cowan Saturday night and got him out of bed, the sheriff said. He quoted Cowan as saying the men described themselves as Klansmen and instructed him to "go get in the car."

Cowan was forced to enter the auto clad only in his underwear, Abercrombie declared. He said the group made no attempt to conceal their faces as they drove to the home of Arnold two miles away. Several remained with Cowan while others went inside to get Arnold.

Near the Mt. Carmel school, at Lithia Springs, the group halted the auto and instructed Cowan and Arnold to get out. The Negroes said one abductor told them they had ignored warnings "about getting drunk and carrying on like you do."

With that, Cowan and Arnold said they were attacked with gun butts, flashlights and fists. Cowan said he seized an opportunity to run and was felled by a shotgun blast of birdshot in the back.

Bruised and wounded, Cowan was forced to walk barefoot and clad only in his underwear for several miles to reach medical aid. Arnold was allowed to go after a sereve beating.

Members of the group wore no regalia to identify themselves as Klansmen, Abercrombie said. He added the abductors evidently were from another county since Cowan and Arnold had resided in Douglas County most of their lives and would have recognized local men.

"There was absolutely no excuse for this," Abercrombie declared, "and we intend to get to the bottom of it."

Cowan and his wife occupy a small building in the rear of a white home at Lithia Springs. Cowan's wife cares for the white woman, an invalid, while Cowan has been employed for years as deliveryman for an Austell furniture company.

"I've never known of Cowan drinking or causing trouble of any kind," Abercrombie said. "Arnold has been arrested for drinking a couple of times . . . but as far as we can find there is no connection between Cowan and Arnold. They didn't visit and did not run around together.

"I am not sure yet just who is responsible for this. But the ones who are responsible — whether they are Klansmen or not—should be run out of the country. This kind of thing won't be tolerated in Douglas County."

Sam W. Roper, president of the Association of Georgia Klans, denied that the Klan was responsible for the incident.

Georgia's Mask Ban Is Law

ATLANTA, Jan. 30 (AP)—Gov. Herman Talmadge signed into law today a bill banning the wearing of hooded masks and the burning of crosses. Both long have been symbols of the Ku Klux Klan. The bill passed the Georgia House 146 to 1 and was approved unanimously by the Senate. The measure prohibits any person or group from attempting to intimidate by any means any other person or group.

Armed Mobsters Attack Negroes

DOUGLASVILLE, Ga., Feb. 6—(AP)—Armed mobsters calling themselves Ku Klux Klansmen felled one Negro with birdshot and mauled another with gun butts, fists and flashlights Saturday night.

The wounded man, also beaten and bruised, had to walk barefoot and nearly naked over frozen ground for several miles to get medical aid. The other was severely beaten.

Sheriff Mack Abercrombie revealed the outburst of brutality Tuesday night. He said he did not know who the perpetrators were but "we intend to get to the bottom of this."

Abercrombie reported the wounded Negro, Arthur C. Cowan, an Austell, Ga., furniture store deliveryman, was treated in nearby Atlanta's Grady hospital. He added that the other, Jesse Arnold, was given medical treatment locally.

The sheriff said the Negroes quoted one of their tormentors as upbraiding them for "getting drunk and carrying on like you do." He added that Arnold has been arrested for drinking but he never knew of Cowan causing any trouble.

Klan astir again, crosses burned in Southern states

ATLANTA, July 27—(AP)—The Ku Kluxers are astir again in the South.

And a spokesman for the Ku Klux Klan says the renewed activity is meant to embarrass un-American groups.

Crosses have flared this week in Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Tennessee.

At Nashville, an investigating officer, E. H. Fitzgerald, said the three crosses burned there Wednesday night were the largest he had ever seen. Six crosses flared at Birmingham.

* * *

THE KLAN, says T. H. Klein, executive secretary of the Association of Georgia Klans, is "trying to get a return to Americanism and trying to defeat Communism."

The cross burnings were strictly on the up-and-up, Klein pointed out. He said permits for such fireworks had been granted by the association to units in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Ohio, New York, Colorado, Illinois, Florida and Indiana.

Klein added that all cross burnings were not the work of the Klan.

KLAN CROSSES VIEWED AS WARNING TO REDS

ATLANTA, July 26 (UP) — At least fourteen Ku Klux Klan crosses burned in four Southern states Wednesday and Grand Dragon Sam Roper said today the incidents marked a stepped-up Klan fight against communism.

Leader of a dissident Klan faction in Alabama said, however, that the crosses portended "new activity" by the night riders.

"Various Klan groups have been busy reorganizing since the end of the trials," said William Hugh Morris, who still claims leadership of the Alabama Federated Klans.

He referred to the mass flogging trials in Alabama that recently were dropped when the state was unable to obtain a conviction after almost a year of proceedings. Mr. Morris spent several weeks in jail for refusing to produce Klan records for a grand jury.

At least half a dozen crosses flared up in the Birmingham area last night. Three crosses were burned at Nashville, Tenn., two at Orlando, Fla., two at Moultrie, Ga., and one in Atlanta. One of the Moultrie crosses was lighted near a Negro American Veterans club, where an unseen assailant fired on a crowd last week-end, wounding ten persons.

Cross-burning on private property is illegal in Georgia under a measure sponsored by the administration of Gov. Herman Talmadge, whose campaign was supported publicly by the Klan.

But Sheriff Olin Beverly at Moultrie said he had not investigated, adding "I hadn't thought much about it."

Cross Burning

The Editors: A few nights ago a KKK cross was burned in front of our house. I've never before had such a feeling as I had when I saw the cross burning.

I know it was a crime of the Ku Klux Klan, as they told my neighbor before they did it. They told him they were going to burn the cross because a Negro lived in our basement. Now, the Negro works for us. He doesn't have any people.

I wonder if the Klan doesn't know that there is only one heaven and Negroes have a soul the same as they do. God isn't looking at our color, it's our hearts.

I just hope the ones that put the cross in front of my house or had it done will have backbone enough to call me or come and talk with me. They burned the cross on my property, without permission.

My conscience is clear. What about you, members of the KKK?

Lithonia. MRS. CONNIE CLACK.

Huge Wooden Cross Burned In Field Near Negro Area

A huge, kerosene-soaked wooden cross was burned late Wednesday in a vacant field on University Ave., S. W., near Booker St., in an all-Negro section, police said.

Ptl. G. T. Hodges and H. G. Tuggle said the cross was practically burned out when they found it. They said it had been constructed of two-by-four timbers, wrapped in cloth and soaked in kerosene.

Residents of the area said the flaming cross could be seen for a distance of several blocks at 10:45 p. m. No one was seen in the field either before or after the fire.

Hodges and Tuggle said no trouble or disturbance between whites and Negroes has been reported in the section.

Capt. E. O. Mullen said he attached little significance to the incident. However, detectives began a systematic search of the area for footprints leading to the scene or any other clue which might identify the cross burners.

Police Chief Herbert Jenkins demanded a complete investigation.

Officers said the burning was the first incident which might have been Ku Klux Klan-inspired in recent years. They said other crosses found over Atlatna were much smaller and evidently were the work of juveniles or pranksters.

2 Indicted in Klan Flareup

Law Steps In as 14 Crosses Blaze

ATLANTA, Ga. (NNPA)—Resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan is meeting with resistance from Southern law enforcement officers, It was indicated here last Friday when the No. 2 man of the Association of Georgia Klans was indicted here on house dynamiting charges.

The indictment followed by one day the assertion of Charles H. Klein, imperial kligrapp (exeucitve secretary) of the Georgia klans, that the hooded order was stepping up its activities.

Indicted with Klein was James Knight, a garage mechanic. They were charged with bombing the Atlanta home of a colored family.

Southwide Awakening

Klen, second in command to Imperial Wizard Sam Roper, only last Thursday had said a southwide flareup of cross burinings heralded a Klan awakening. His indictment follows this assertion by one day Solicitor General Paul W. Webb of Fulton County (Atlanta) ordered the two men arrested and held under $5,000 bonds.

Klein said the house dynamited is just behind his own residence and he is chairman of a committee of white persons who tried to get the colored family not to move into the house.

"But I don't know anything about the dynamiting," he said. "All I know is what I read in the paper the next day."

ExKlansmen Talk

Information leading to the indictment is believed to have been given by two exmembers of the Ku Klux Klan. The two men allegdly admitted that they were members of Oakland City Klavern No. 297 last March 24 when they were asked to go on a "night raid" bombing of the colored home. The men were identified as George D. Sligh of Jonesboro and W. M. Bruce of Morrow.

Sligh reportedly said he was informed of the night raid and told the Klansmen that he would not put up with night raids and bombings. He said he called Bruce and they in turn called police to try to stop the bombings.

The dynamiting occurred on March 24: The Solicitor General said the colored family had bought the house but had not moved, in at the time of the blast.

14 Crosses Burned

At least fourteen fiery crosses lighted the skies in four southern states last Thursday night, and Imperial Wizard Roper said the cross burnings marked a stepped up Klan fight against Communisum.

In Atlanta, police were still looking for the persons who Wednesday night set fire to a six foot cross in a vacant field on University avenue northwest, near Brooker street in an all-colored section.

Klein said "If the Klan burned a cross in Atlanta Wednesday night, it was with full permission of the association."

He would not say whether the Klan was involved. Police Captain E. O. Mullen said he did not believe the indident was knan inspired.

"Permits" Granted

Klein said the association has granted permits for cross burnings in all states in which it has Klaverns, but said they were not meant to embarrass or scare any but un-American groups.

William Hugh Morris, a leader of the dissident Klan faction in Alabama, said the crosses meant "new activity" by the hooded order.

Cross burnings, symbol of the Klan, flared up in Moultrie, Ga., where two 10-foot high crosses were burned, one within 200 yards of the local Klan headquarters and another near the [illegible] AMVET club. Sheriff Olin Beverly of Moultire said he hadn't invesitgated. "I hadn't thought much about it," he added.

Ala. Klansmen Active

At least half a dozen crosses were burned in the Birmingham, Ala., area where several were posted along the rim of mountains around the city in spectacular style.

Three crosses were burned at Nashville, Tennessee, and two at Orlando, Florida.

Cross burning on private property is now banned by law in Georgia

Roper and Klein said that the crosses were part of the hooded order's fight against Communism. Roper said "any Klansman who burned crosses had permission (of the property owners concerned)."

Klein said cross permits were granted by the association to Atlanta units and to units in various sections of Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Ohio, New York, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana and Florida.

The South Carolina Klan met last Wednesday night in West Columbia, South Carolina, where Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon, declared his organization would fight to the last ditch against non-segregated schools.

The burned no crosses since the practice has been banned under the administration of Governor James F. Byrnes.

Ga. Klansmen Flog Man, Wife

DUBLIN, Ga. — White robed, but unmasked Klansmen went on a flogging spree last week and severely beat Mr. and Mrs. Willie Lee Brinson, and ordered them out of the county by night. They were in a critical condition at Dublin Claxton hospital here Saturday.

Brinson and his wife said they were taken from their farm home in neighboring Johnson county, driven a long way and beaten with an axe handle.

A hospital doctor said he was told that the Savannah office of the FBI had been notified of the incident.

FAMILY ATTENDS KLAN MEETING—J. E. Ivey, his wife and young son, Matt, of Jones County, Ga., each dressed in Ku Klux Klan regalia but unmasked, stand stiffly in front of a flaming cross at a political get-together of the Jones County Ku Klux Klan held near Gray, Ga. About 25 Klansmen attended the meeting which was dedicated to the defeat of the United Nations, President Truman and Gen. Dwight Eisenhower.

Klan Leader Urges Abolition of UN

GRAY, GA., Oct. 13—(AP)—A Ku Klux Klan official last night urged abolition of the United Nations and defeat of any presidential moves in 1952 by President Truman and General Eisenhower.

Twenty-seven robed and hooded members, including some women, stood around a burning cross and cheered the speaker, C. H. Klein, of Atlanta, executive secretary of the Associated Klans of America.

Klein said Klansmen all over the South are holding similar meetings in preparation for a national meeting in Kansas City in November.

The KKK leader complained that the United Nations flag flies above Old Glory. He called on the Klan to fight the United Nations, whose charter says you must sleep with Negroes, support the government of Israel and let the Roman Catholic Church tear up our school system."

Staff Photo—Ryan Sanders

CPL. JOHN SANDERS COMES HOME TO REST

Robed Klansmen Predominate at Military Funeral

AT MILITARY FUNERAL

Klan Escorts Body of First Atlantan Killed in Korea

By CELESTINE SIBLEY

The first Atlanta soldier to lose his life in Korea came home to Georgia Tuesday and was buried at the National Cemetery in Marietta with an honor guard of a dozen sheeted, hooded but unmasked Ku Klux Klansmen.

Corp. John P. Sanders, 27, was killed July 17, 1950, about two weeks after the fighting in Korea started.

"He was a member of the medics," his father, A. N. Sanders, of 3 Napier St., S. E., said, "but he put down his stretcher and picked up his gun when the going got rough. He was the first Atlanta boy to be killed—but he is not the first to be brought home for burial.

Young Sanders' body was laid to rest on a slope dappled with sunlight and shadow and marked by the graves of World War II dead and a new grave belonging to Corp. Walter Pritchard, who was also buried Tuesday afternoon. Corporal Pritchard, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Pritchard of College Park, was killed in Korea Feb. 23, 1951.

A dozen members of the Ku Klux Klan, including a sprinkling of women, led by C. H. Kline, executive secretary of the Association of Georgia Klans, stood at attention at the graveside while Capt. Laurence Bradley, a reserve Army chaplain and pastor of the Orchard Knob Baptist Church, conducted the service. It was the first time, funeral directors said, robed Klansmen had participated in a service in the U. S. cemetery here. Kline, clad in a green satin robe decorated with gold dragons, said the Klansmen were here "at the family's request."

Members of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, led by Louis Burton, also served as an honor guard in the services. Burton said he had invited the Klan at the request of the soldier's father who was himself a member.

Soldiers from Fort McPherson served as pallbearers. A firing squad fired three rounds over the grave and a bugler played "Taps" at the end of the service.

KKK Beats Negro, Orders Others To Move In Georgia

SWAINSBORO, Ga. (ANP)—In the latest outbreak of KKK activity, about 25 white robed men burned a large cross in a section occupied by whites and Negroes here last week, and a property owner reported one Negro was beaten and others were ordered to move out within 15 days.

Mrs. Edsel Dawkins, white, said she was told by one of her tenants that Otis Jordan, Negro, who occupies one of her houses was beaten so severely he was taken to the hospital for treatment.

Lt. W. E. McDuffie of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, said that he saw a 10 ft. high cross burning, but that he had not heard that a colored man had been beaten.

Lt. McDuffie said the cross burning was in the city and outside the jurisdiction of the state highway patrol.

According to Mrs. Dawkins, the section involved, formerly was occupied by Negroes only, but during the war, because of the housing shortage, many whites moved in.

However, since the trouble, the white families have been asked to move.

Georgia Mob Didn't Force Him to Eat Metal

RICHMOND

"Yes I took 25 or 30 various tems like spark plugs, bullets, auto bolts and keys out of his stomach two months ago, but no one forced him to eat them."

Thus spoke Dr. Walter Neal of Raleigh, N.C., who practices at St. Agnes Hospital in Raleigh, about Leon Burns, 37, in an interview with the AFRO Monday.

Burns had come into the Richmond AFRO with the tale that a mob of Ku Klux Klansmen in Georgia had forced him to eat these 25 or 30 items after he had a fight with his white landlord on whose land he sharecropped.

Burns had stated that he had returned home from a trip to the store to find his wife in bed with his white landlord.

This is the tale he has been telling for the past three months in his travels from Jefferson, Ga. to Baltimore where he said he hoped to find a job.

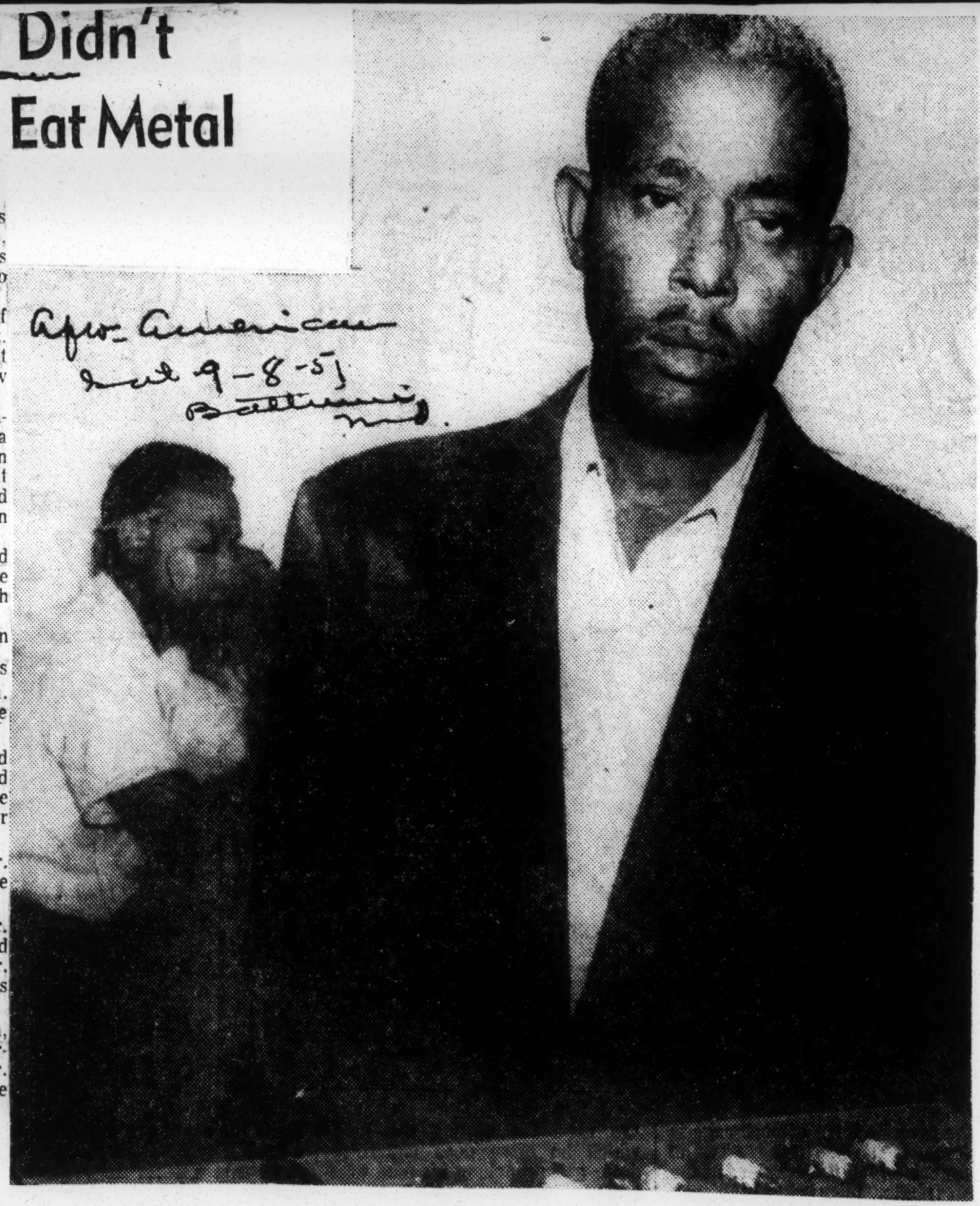
He had stopped off in Richmond with 15 cents in his pocket and gone to the NAACP office where he was interviewed by W. Lester Banks, executive secretary.

After the talk to Dr. Neal, Mr. Banks confronted Burns with the facts. He still held to his story.

However, Mr. Banks sent Mr. Burns back to the NAACP and told him to wait for him. When Mr. Banks got there the man was gone.

Despite the story's untruth, Burns was believed by many persons both here and in Raleigh. Dr. Neal laughingly said "I think the man is a little off."

Leon Burns, 37, of Jefferson, Ga., who told the AFRO Monday a cock-and bull story that the Georgia KKK had forced him to eat seven auto plugs, paring knife blade, auto bolts and eight keys. With the aid of W. Lester Banks, NAACP, the AFRO discovered that Burns ate these items for pay. A doctor in Raleigh removed 25 or 30 of them from his stomach two months ago.



A Note to Northern Papers

Let anything suggestive of Ku Klux Klan violence happen in Georgia or the South and the Northern and Eastern papers are certain to give it front-page play and bitter editorial condemnation.

But we have searched in vain for comment on the General Assembly's passage of the antimask bill, which is the most stringent ever offered and which signals the death and burial of the Klan and its code in Georgia. Only a few papers in those regions gave that fact more than passing notice in the inside news columns.

Yesterday Gov. Herman Talmadge, son of the late "Old Gene," signed this bill and every Georgian who cherishes the honor of his State is proud.

We shall wait patiently to see what the Northern press, so quick to seize upon any untoward incident in the benighted South, has to say about it.

But frankly, past experience doesn't give us much hope. It is much easier to criticize than to praise.

Masks Now Outlawed

Gov. Talmadge Tuesday signed into law a bill outlawing the wearing of hooded masks and burning of crosses.

The Governor said:

"No comment, except I approved it."

The bill passed the House 146 to 1 and was approved unanimously by the Senate.

Negro Couple Flogged

DUBLIN, Ga., Oct. 4 (AP).—A Negro man and wife reported they were flogged with an ax handle and a strap by a band of men wearing white robes. Willie Lee Brinson, 41, and his wife, Alberta, 42, were listed as in "critical condition" at a Dublin hospital. Dr. J. A. Bell said they were suffering from severe shock and numerous cuts and bruises.

Conviction of Dade Sheriff Upheld in Negro Rights Case

NEW ORLEANS, May 26—(AP)—The U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals Saturday upheld the conviction of a Georgia sheriff and deputy convicted of denying several Negroes their constitutional rights by releasing them to the Ku Klux Klan.

Sheriff John Lynch and Deputy William Hartline of Dade County were convicted and sentenced to pay $1,000 fines each and one year imprisonment.

The Appeals Court said the indicement in the case was "based on the alleged surrender of the (Negro) prisoners by the officers to a group of persons, disguised in the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan, to be beaten . . .

"There is substantial evidence to support the verdict and from the evidence the jury could properly have found the following:

"There was an organizational drive being conducted in northeast Georgia by the Ku Klux Klan in 1948. Sheriff Lynch and his deputies attended several meetings of the klan. At one meeting, some remarks were made about some Negroes creating a disturbance on Hooker Hill. Plans were then made for the burning of some crosses. Notice of one or more of these meetings were sent to defendants Lynch and Hartline. The latter (Hartline) personally aided in the building of one of the crosses . . .

"On this same night, Sheriff Lynch and his deputies arrived on Hooker Hill at about the same time the klansmen arrived. While good cause existed for the arrest of one Negro who was drunk on the highway, no grounds were shown for the arrest of the others.

"At the time of their arrest, one of the men appealed to Sheriff Lynch for protection, but the sheriff only walked away.

"The officers participated, or at least consented, to these Negroes being placed in cars and carried for a short distance . . . and beaten. Following this the klansmen returned to Trenton, as did the officers, where they mixed and mingled together."

The evidence was sufficient to sustain the verdict, the court said, and affirmed the convictions.

14 Klan Crosses Burned In 4 Southern States

At least 14 fiery Ku Klux Klan crosses dotted the night in four Southern states Wednesday and Imperial Wizard Sam Roper said the incidents marked a stepped-up Klan fight against Communism.

In Atlanta, police were still looking for the persons who Wednesday set fire to a six-foot cross in a vacant field on University Ave., S. W., near Brooker St., in an all-Negro section.

T. H. Klein, executive secretary of the Association of Georgia Klans, said Thursday, "If the Klan burned a cross in Atlanta Wednesday night, it was with full permission of the association." He would not say whether the Klan was involved. Police Captain E. O. Mullen said he did not believe the incident was Klan inspired.

Klein said the association has granted permits for cross-burnings in all states in which it has Klaverns but said they are not meant to embarrass or scare any but un-American groups.

William Hugh Morris, a leader of the dissident Klan faction in Alabama, said the crosses meant "new activity" by the nightriders.

Cross burnings, symbol of the Klan, flared up in Moultrie where two 10-foot high crosses burned, one within 200 yards of the local Klan headquarters and another near the Negro AMVET club. Moultrie Sheriff Olin Beverly said he hadn't investigated, "I hadn't thought much about it."

At least half a dozen crosses were set in the Birmingham area where several were posted along the rim of mountains around the city in spectacular style. Three crosses were burned at Nashville, Tenn., and two at Orlando, Fla.

Cross burning on private property is now banned by law in Georgia.

Roper and Klein said only that the crosses were part of the secret society's fight against Communism. Roper said, "Any Klansmen who burned crosses had permission (of the property owners concerned)."

Klein said cross-burning permits were granted by the association to Atlanta units and to units in various sections of Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Ohio, N. Y., Colorado, Illinois, Indiana and Florida.

The South Carolina Klan met Wednesday night in West Columbia, S. C., where Thomas L. Hamilton, Grand Dragon, declared his organization would fight to the last ditch against non-segregated schools. They burned no crosses since the practice has been banned under administration of Gov. James F. Byrnes.

NEWPORT, Vt., July 26—(U.P.)—The head of the Vermont American Legion Thursday assailed the resurgence of Ku Klux Klan activities in four southern states as "an outbreak of dangerous un-American activities which give the Communist press of the world a ready-made propaganda weapon against the United States."

"Patriotic citizens everywhere in the United States should register unmistakably their moral condemnation of the kind of prejudice and bigotry which results in burning of fiery crosses," said Russell M. Parker, of Newport.

Parker said the burning of 14 KKK crosses in the four southern states "is not solely the concern of the Southerners involved."

"We must keep well before the world the fact that these outbreaks are not representative of the spirit of the American people," he said, "but are in fact condemned by the vast majority of us all."

"We know . . . that the vast majority of Southerners realize that any Klan outburst will be used immediately to inflame our friends in Asia against the whole people of the United States."

Klan Leader Held In House Blasting

ATLANTA, Ga., July 27 (AP).—The No. 2 man of the Ku Klux Klan was indicted on house dynamiting charges today, just one day after he had proclaimed a resurgence of the white-sheeted order.

Charles H. Klein, Imperial Kligrapp (executive secretary) of the Association of Georgia Klans, and James Knight, a garage mechanic, were charged with blasting a Negro-owned house.

Klein, second in command to Imperial Wizard Sam Roper, only yesterday had said that a South-wide flare-up of cross burnings heralded a Klan reawakening. He declared the order was bestirring itself to promote Americanism and defeat Communism.

Solicitor General Paul W. Webb ordered the two men arrested and put under $5000 bonds. Klein said he was ready to make bond.

Couple Told to Leave County

DUBLIN, Ga.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation has begun a study of the axe-handle flogging by white-robed men of a colored couple, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Lee Brinson, of nearby Johnson County.

Mr. and Mrs. Brinson were brought to a hospital here by colored friends at whose

MACON, Ga. — Robed but unmasked Ku Kluxers picketed a movie theatre here when colored persons were admitted for the first time to a segregated balcony.

Police reported no outbreak of violence.

house they took refuge after they had been dragged from their home by white men wearing robes, beaten and warned to stay where they were left for an hour and then to leave the county.

Brinson, 41, and his wife, Alberta, 42, were listed in critical condition at the hospital here after they were admitted Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 2. They told their story to doctors and reporters, but no law enforcement officers bothered to question them during their first twenty-four hours here.

SHERIFF SNUBS CASE

Johnson County Sheriff Dewey Hall, who was a patient in the same hospital when the colored man and woman were admitte said he hadn't been informed ficially of the whipping didn't want to hear anythi about it. He said a doctor wa treating him for a lung illness and didn't want him to check into the case at the time.

The sheriff refused to say whether he would investigate the case after he left the hospital.

IDENTITY KNOWN

Joe Anderson, white man on whose farm the Brinsons lived and worked, said he had requested the FBI to investigate the case. He said he knew the identity of the white men who did the beating and that they were members of a gang from Wrightsville, county seat about seven miles north of his farm.

Anderson said the gang had attempted to intimidate his workers previously and that he had at one time been asked to join it, but he had refused.

The couple said the band of white-robed men came to their home about 3 A. M., Tuesday. Mrs. Brinson said they were awakened by the barking of dogs and looked out the window to see car lights in the road.

"A bunch of cars drove up to the house and men dressed in white robe all over them jumped out," she said. "We ran to the back room. Willie got behind the door and I got behind the bed. The men broke down the front door and the back door and came in."

SHE FIRED ONCE

She said she fired one shot over the backdoor with a shotgun, but didn't believe she hit anyone.

After the men broke into the house they dragged the couple out to a car and drove them "a long way" from the house on a dirt road, Mrs. Brinson said.

When the car stopped the man and his wife were forced to get out and lie face down on the ground. In that position they were beaten, Mrs. Brinson said, with an ax-handle and a strap. Then men told them as they left to "lay still for an hour" and to be "out of Johnson County by night."

After the men had left, the couple made their way to a nearby farm house, where they took refuge for the remainder of the night.

LEFT EAR SPLIT

Dr. J. A. Bell, a white doctor, who treated them at the hospital, said the couple suffered from severe shock and numerous bruises and cuts about the body. He said Brinson's left ear lobe was split about half an inch.

The Brinsons said they did not know why they were beaten. Mrs. Brinson said she and her husband had been busy picking cotton during the day time and had strictly minded their own business.

The FBI office at Savannah announced that a preliminary investigation would be made to determine whether any Federal laws had been violated. If they determine the case comes under Federal jurisdiction, a full probe will be made and the evidence will be turned over to the U. S. District Attorney at Savannah, the announcement said.

Flogged, He Lives Too Near Whites

SWAINSBORO, Ga. — A robed but unmasked mob of about 300 men invaded a poverty ridden section of Swainsboro last week, flogged Otis Jordan and burned a huge cross in protest to white tenants occupying homes in the same area with Negroes.

Mrs. Edsel Dawkins, who owns the string of houses, explained that the area was once all-Negro but said whites moved in during the last war. Nine white families still live in the section.

She said she is taking steps to evict them, however, because "the section is not suitable for white families."

ROBED MEN FLOG NEGRO

Landlord Says She Will Evict White Tenants in Section

SWAINSBORO, Ga., Sept. 6 (AP) —Flogging of a Negro by robed but unmasked white men last night was reported by a property owner here today.

Mrs. Edsel Dawkins, who owns fifteen houses here, said she had been told by one of her tenants that 200 to 300 robed men burned a cross in front of his home and warned Negroes to move within fifteen days.

One of her Negro tenants, Otis Jordan, was beaten so severely he was taken to a hospital for treatment, Mrs. Dawkins said she had been informed. Mrs. Dawkins said the section was entirely Negro at one time. During the war some of the homes were rented to white families due to the housing shortage. Nine or ten white families still live there.

She said she would try to have the section returned to Negro quarters, and that eviction warrants would be served on the remaining white families.

2 GEORGIANS FLOGGED

Flog Victim Relates Night Of Terror From Klan Beating

By George M. Coleman

Bathe your many wounds, Arthur C. Cowan, and try to rest your pain wracked body. . .Sit down and eat your evening meal with your wife . . .Time will heal the soreness in your body, if not the remorse in your heart. Soon you will be able to work again and support your wife and family. . .But now; tonight, let the dark past float on by if you can.

(You're afraid. . .You don't know where to go. . .You know it won't be Douglasville or Lithia Springs, but you don't feel safe anywhere. That's the way Arthur Cowan put it in his own words. The buck shot is still in his body; his back, his legs, his hands. He is not able to work. He moves to a different house each night, and tells no one where he has gone.

Jesse Arnold is the other man who was badly beaten Saturday night when a gang of white men took them into the woods and used a bicycle tire for a whip. Jesse's face is bruised. His ear is torn. Both men have large blisters on their feet. Cowan left town. . .Jesse remained in Lithia Springs.

About two weeks before, on a Thursday night, some white men knocked on the door where Cowan's wife and three children were waiting for him to come home from work. Cowan drives a truck for a furniture company and is away from home often at night. The men wanted Cowan to pull their car. The wife refused. But the men hung around until a neighbor asked them to leave.

They then went to Jesse's house and asked him to hide some whiskey for them. They were refused once more. But someone came back Saturday and used the whip on both of the men.

Cowan was sick, and in his underwear. But that didn't stop them. They took him on by Jesse's home and then to the woods. . .

Cowan was given five slashes, and then one of the attackers got careless and Cowan got in a good blow to his ribs. . .Up came an automatic shotgun. Cowan reached for it, and soon all were in the struggle. That's when Cowan slipped quietly away. But not quietly enough, for buckshots found his body, as he began his six mile flight to a friend's house. More shots followed but Cowan was well on his way. . .He paused only long enough to remove his shorts (his only garment) and held them to his chest to keep from catching more cold. . .He ran and ran, and felt his feet being torn as they slipped on hidden rocks and under brush. . .

Jesse got his beating next, and then was told to run. He did, and the floggers faded from sight. Both victims were bare footed, and without clothing. The night air was cold and chilling. . .Cowan is still numb and stiff.

Jesse says he was accused of getting drunk and "branching" before white women. Cowan states they said nothing to him. Jesse tells how he reached behind the bed, and felt a shot gun butt tear the flesh of his arms and shoulders; the back of his head, his face. . .

Both of the men speak of a third man, who was picked up, but released after saying he wasn't the one they wanted. And neither can say who the men were. Their faces were strange. . .

But Cowan has had enough, and has no plans other than making his future in a large city. But at present he doesn't feel safe anywhere. You're afraid, he says. You don't know where to go. . .You know it won't be back home, but you don't feel safe anywhere. . .

Mrs. Emma Cowan points to buckshot in the back of her husband, Arthur Cowan.

Ga. Mob Attacks 2 Men, Shoots One; Threaten Woman

By WILLIAM A. FOWLKES
(Courier Staff Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN GEORGIA—The buckshot was still falling out of Arthur Cowan's back when this reporter saw the Douglas County flogging victim last week. His face and body showed signs of having been brutalized, a welt showing here and there. The feeling had not completely returned to his half-frozen feet.

But fear was still with Cowan, who luckily was out of gun range when upset mobsters found in what direction he had run from the place of their lashing.

The one great stabilizing factor at his side was his wife, Mrs. Emma Florence Cowan, who stole away from their Lithia Springs home to be at his side and to nurse him back to health.

LEFT CHILDREN BEHIND

Both were concerned, however, about their three children, left with their paternal grandmother at Douglasville, going toward the Alabama state line.

The children, Norman, 11; Lillie Mae, 10, and Betty Lou, 7, have not seen their father since armed men came and took him out, clad only in light underwear.

When the mobsters appeared, Cowan was in bed, half-sick, as his wife put it. He had not long returned with the big furniture van he drove all the way up to Nashville, Tenn., to make in-between deliveries. Cowan made such trips practically every week.

This time he had returned home feeling so badly that Mrs. Cowan suggested he go to bed. She put hot water bags to his side when he lay down and tucked in.

Cowan had been there only a short while when a loud knock came at the front door. When she asked who was there, Mrs. Cowan was cursed and told she had better open the door at once or it would be kicked down. The voice said it knew "A. C." was in there and he was wanted.

Mrs. Cowan immediately thought of getting their shotgun and rifle, since strange visitors had come there two weeks previously when Cowan was out of town on a trip. Only the appearance of a neighbor with a shotgun and the assurance that "A. C." was not there had sent the three white men on their way.

ENTERED ON RUSE

They finally left, saying they heard Cowan had a truck and they wanted to get him to p[ull] them out of a mud-hole down the road.

But, "A. C.," as everybody in Douglas County called Cowan, and ordered him to get up and see what the trouble was, without his guns. He was a peaceful man. asked the mob to permit him to No sooner had he appeared when put on clothing and shoes, the four or five men, armed with leader told him he didn't need

any and pushed him out into the bitter cold.

TOOK SECOND MAN

The leader ordered Mrs. Cowan to come on, but the brave woman stared madly at him and quickly shut the door between them. By now, the mob party was out on the road with Cowan and the three-car entourage drove away.

Two miles up the road, they stopped at the home of Jesse Arnold, more often called Jesse James, by his neighbors and associates. The armed men, all without Klan regalia, robes or masks, secured Arnold after the usual knock-knock, drag-out method. Then the party drove on, none of the men attempting to conceal their identity, but being strange to Cowan and Arnold, they said.

On they drove to a spot near Mount Carmel School. Arnold and Cowan were ordered to get out. One of the mobsters told them they had ignored warnings about "getting drunk and carrying on."

FOUGHT AMONG SELVES

Then the white men lit into the abducted men with gun butts, flashlights and fists.

Cowan is a strongly built man. Mad and frightened, he doubled up one of the floggers with a right to the stomach and started kicking right and left. He got a hand on a shotgun barrell and a general struggle started in the pitch darkness of the road. The mobsters found themselves grappling with each

er in the general turmoil to keep the gun from Cowan. Others dared not shoot among the struggling bodies.

Cowan saw an opening. Quick as a flash he got from beneath the twisted arms and legs and shot around two of the cars parked straight in the road, and around the third, parked crossways. Like a rabbit in a briar patch, having been familiar with every field and dale in the area, Cowan fled. Then, he hit the nearby creek with a splash. It was only then that the floggers knew in what direction Cowan had fled.

A shotgun blast rent the air. Then there was a second volley, interspersed with pistol fire. Cowan was sprayed with bird shot from head to foot, but the pellets penetrated little beyond his skin, the range having been outdistanced. He ran three miles before taking a rest. His legs kept warm in their winged flight, but his chest began to get exceedingly cold.

Cowan ran about five miles to the nearest colored person's house. There he received clothing and sat until 9:30 Sunday morning. His furniture company employer found him and took him to Douglas County Sheriff Mack Abercrombie.

The mobsters gave Arnold a severe beating and finally let him go. He had been severely beaten two months previously.

Sheriff Abercrombie, for whom Cowan used to work as a boy, rushed the bruised, battered and wounded victim to Atlanta's Grady Hospital where he was given medical aid. Authorities said the birdshot would drop out gradually.

Neither Cowan nor Arnold could identify any of the floggers.

Klansmen Shoot One, Beat Another

(The Associated Press)

Douglasville, Ga., Feb. 7—Armed mobsters calling themselves Ku Klux Klansmen felled one Negro with birdshot and mauled another with gun butts, fists and flashlights Saturday night.

The wounded man, also beaten and bruised, had to walk barefoot and nearly naked over frozen ground for several miles to get medical aid. The other was severely beaten.

Sheriff Mack Abercrombie revealed the outburst of brutality Tuesday night.

The sheriff said the Negroes quoted one of their tormentors as upbraiding them for "getting drunk and carrying on like you do." Abercrombie added that one of the victims has been arrested for drinking but that he never knew of the other causing any trouble.

Klan Bombing Report Probed

Fulton County Sol. Gen. Paul Webb Monday said he will begin an immediate investigation into reports that two ex-members of the Ku Klux Klan are ready to give information on the bombing of an Atlanta Negro home last March.

The two men allegedly admitted they were members of Oakland City Klavern No. 297 March 24 when they were asked to go on a "night raid" bombing of a Negro home at 518 East Ave., N. E. The men were identified as George D. Sligh of Jonesboro and W. M. Bruce of Morrow.

Sligh reportedly said he was informed of the night raid and told the Klansmen he would not put up with night raids and bombings. He said he called Bruce and they in turn called police to try to stop the bombing.

According to police records, a Negro home at 524 East Ave. was bombed March 24. The home at 518 was bombed earlier.

MOULTRIE CROSS - BURNING FAILS TO EXCITE NEGROES

BY L. (PONY) JONES

MOULTRIE, Ga.—For the first time in the history of this South Georgia Town, a cross ten feet high was burned in the Negro section, Wednesday night about nine thirty o'clock.

The cross which was placed just across the city line in a vacant lot, only aroused little excitement among those who lived in that section, however, Negroes alerted themselves for the worse.

Negroes did not run from it, but in masses they came from far and near to see it. There was little talk among them, and they sent a special committee to the Police Chief's office, although he could not be found, and they told of how they felt about the matter, and that they would not be intimidated further.

The cross was placed just at the line of the City's oldest exclusive Negro residential section, known as College, where fifty-five of the sixty-five homes owned by Negroes. They were assured by the police department that the section would be duly patrolled throughout the night.

The Committee was headed by L. J. Jones, secretary secretary of the Georgia Association of Democratic Clubs and he also was the spokesman.

Negroes are seeking to find out just what the burning is about, and they hope to find out withing the next few days.

Accused Listed As James Knight And Charles Klein

BY GEORGE COLEMAN

ATLANTA, Ga. — (SNS) —

Two Georgia Klansmen — one of them the executive secretary of the Association of Georgia Klans, who Thursday denied any knowledge of the burning of a cross in a Negro neighborhood Wednesday night — were indicted Friday by the Fulton Grand Jury and charged with dynamiting a house purchased by a Negro family.

The bill of indictment listed the two men as Charles H. Klein alias "Chuck" and James Knight. The bill listed the charge as a felony-dynamiting a house. Immediately following the returning of the indictments, the two men were ordered arrested and held under $5,000 bonds.

The grand jury, that returned the bill of indictment, reportedly had five Negro members serving on it. The dynamiting of the home at 524 East Ave., N. E., was one of several taking place recently in the city.

When asked for a comment on the action, Fulton County Solicitor General Paul Webb said, "The law had been broken," and that all law breakers would be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

Solicitor Webb added, "There is no place in America for anarchy. These instances, unchecked, would lead to anarchy."

He stated that he got his lead to indictment against the two men from the Atlanta Journal, and personally took over the investigation. It took less than a week to uncover evidence leading to the indictments.

The bill of indictment stated the two klansmen "did wilfully and maliciously attempt to destroy and did wilfully and maliciously injure the dwelling of Scott Brooks, Lillian Brooks, Glen Brooks and Ernestine Brooks, located at 524 East Avenue, N. E., by breaking and shattering four window glasses and the glass in the rear door to said dwelling, with the use of an explosive substance unknown, setting it off at the rear of the house."

DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF CROSS BURNING

Klein, in an interview with an Atlanta World reporter Thursday afternoon denied any knowledge of the cross burning in a field at University and Booker Aves., S. W. Testimonies were entered against the two klansmen by former klansmen.

Associated Press Wirephoto

Klan Gathering Against Truman, Ike

The Ivey family, with their young son, Matt, stand with a flaming cross at a Gray, Ga., rally dedicated to the defeat of the United Nations, President Truman and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. About 25 attended the Klan rally in full regalia.

Ga. Man, Wife Beaten by Klan

Victims Hospitalized After Night Flogging

DUBLIN, Ga. — A white-robed mob in Johnson County near here Monday night slashed Willie L. Brinson about the ear with a knife and so brutally beat both him and his wife that doctors in the hospital, where they were brought, said their flesh resembled "raw steak."

Pain-wracked and bewildered as to the motive of the attack upon them, the pair told the county sheriff the following story when they were brought here to the hospital early Tuesday.

A band of men, masked and robed, came to their home and broke in the front and back doors, firing pistols and shotguns as they entered. The wife fired one blast of a shotgun at them but said she thought she missed hitting anyone.

Beaten by Ax Handles

Seven or eight carloads of men carried the couple a long way to a field where they were made to lie on their stomachs. They were then beaten with leather straps and ax handles and ordered to leave the county by nighfall.

Brinson, displaying the notch cut in his right ear lobe, said the man who slashed it with a knife boasted, "I'm leaving my mark on you."

Both Brinson and his wife declared that they knew of no possible reason for the attack upon them.

When asked by reporters what action he proposed to take in the matter Sheriff Dewey Hall replied: "No comment."

Supreme Court Fails To Hear Ga. Flog Case

WASHINGTON —(SNS)— Dade County Sheriff John William Lynch and his deputy, William H. Hartline, were refused a review of their conviction for turning seven Negro prisoners over to a mob by the Supreme Court.

The pair was convicted in Rome, Ga., in the United States District Court. They were charged with depriving the prisoners of their civil rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

It was specifically charged that the sheriff and deputy had placed under arrest the seven men near the house of a woman in Hooker, Georgia.

It was stated that the law enforcement officers were followed by a group of from 50 to 75 hooded persons. A cross was burned near the woman's house and a robed person lectured to the woman about "wild parties" she was said to have conducted.

The sheriff and deputy turned the seven prisoners over to the mob and they were severely flogged. In their trials, the two officers were described as being either members or active associates of the Ku Klux Klan.

Upon their conviction, each officer was sentenced to a year in prison and $1,000 fines.

The Floggings Continue

The abduction and consequent brutal flogging of a Negro couple of Johnson county, near Dublin, Georgia last Tuesday morning by a hooded and robed mob, is one more reason for the exodus of Negroes from the rural urban and Northern communities. For the day has come when even Southern rural Negroes are seeking security of life and limb for themselves and better advantages for their children. But it is no secret that in vast areas of the rural South, including Dublin and Johnson county, Negroes have neither security of life and limb nor the advantages of living and laboring so that their children might grow up to be useful citizens.

At best, the rural South, as it is presently organized, is difficult for even poor whites, who have the advantages of the protection of the law from mob violence and economic exploitation. But for the Negro it is still a symbol of intimidation, violence and peonage. Here their children must be denied the advantages of an average education. Here they are the victims of discriminatory wages and job inequalities. Here they are forced to live under the shadow of fear and brutality. And here they have little hope of protection from the average sheriff.

True, this does not apply to every Negro in the rurals. True it does not apply to every sheriff, for there are some notable exceptions where sheriffs enforce the law evenly upon all. True in every community there are whites who can be depended upon to come to the aid of the hapless Negroes. But by and large, the picture above is no exaggeration of the southern Negro plight.

Here is a story of brutality in the extreme. And here is a situation out of which there is little likelihood that any convictions will come. It is likely to turn out to be just another explanation that the couple was beaten by unknown parties. But that will not satisfy reasonable thinking individuals. That will not change the determination of the children of this couple to pack up all they have and move to a community where they can live safely and work at profitable employment. Young people, even in the rurals, will not content themselves in places where night riders can run roughshod over them and their families. The new Negro does not plan mob-rule and violence in his diet as the price to live and develop in the rural South. And who can blame him?

Negro couple beaten by men in robes

DUBLIN, Ga., Oct. 3 — (AP) — A Negro man and his wife reported they were flogged with an ax handle and a strap early yesterday by a band of men wearing white robes.

Willie Lee Brinson, 41, and his wife, Alberta, 42, were listed as in "critical condition" at a Dublin hospital. Dr. J. A. Bell said they were suffering from sever shock and numerous cuts and bruises.

Brinson and his wife said they were taken from their home on the Joe Anderson farm near Wrightsville about 3 a.m. They said they were driven "a long ways" and then beaten.

ANDERSON TOLD a hospital doctor the Savannah office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had been notified. Johnson County Sheriff Dewey Hall was not available for comment.

The woman said after they were flogged they were ordered to stay there for an hour and to tell "out of Johnson County by night."

Sheriff Jailed For Letting Klan Beat Negroes, To Seek Reelection

TRENTON, GA. — (ANP) — John Lynch, Dade County Georgia Sheriff who was convicted last spring for turning seven Negro prisoners over to a Klan mob for flogging, plans to retain his office and seek reelection even though he will be behind bars.

Lynch and his deputy, William Hartline, were both convicted in federal court for violation of the Negroes' civil rights and received fines of $1,000 and one year prison sentences. The U. S. Supreme court last week refused to review the cases.

The sheriff, whose term expires next year has deputized his wife to carry on the functions of the office while he is in jail. He blames his conviction on politics."

A judge stated that even though the sheriff himself might be jailed the office does not become vacant except through death, resignation, or ouster proceedings. No such proceedings have been initiated as yet, but Lynch said he knew his ';political enemies" would take such action.

Georgia Sheriff Convicted For Violating Civil Rights Of Negroes Starts Prison Term

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 29—John W. Lynch, Dade County sheriff, and his former chief deputy, William Hartine, began serving one-year terms at an announced Federal Prison, Thursday for violating the civil rights of seven Negroes.

Convicted last year in a Federal Court in Rome, Ga., of turning the Negroes over to a hooded and sheeted mob, alleged to be members of the Ku Klux Klan for flogging, Sheriff Lynch and Hartline surrendered to United States Marshal Joe Harrison.

Sheriff Lynch's thirty-five-year old wife was sworn in as chief deputy to act in his absence.

Both law enforcement officers received fines of one thousand dollars in addition to the sentences of one year in prison.

Attributing his conviction to politics, Sheriff Lynch announced a few days ago that he will retain his office and seek re-election at the expiration of his current term, even though he will be behind bars.

A judge stated that even though the sheriff himself might be jailed, the office does not become vacant except through death, resignation or ouster proceedings.

A Victory For Law And Order

In voting to outlaw the wearing of masks "anywhere and anytime in public, the Georgia House of Representatives dealt a stunning blow to the Ku Klux Klan, although the bill did not specifically indicate that the Klan was the object of the measure. It is significant too that the vote, 149 to 1, was inspired by the Talmadge forces, which a year ago were overwhelmingly unfriendly to the passage of any sort of antimask measure. For, whereas the House now is unanimous, such a bill was defeated a year ago by a vote of 89 against passage and to 65 for.

In passing the measure, the House and the Talmadge administration yielded to the pressure of an aroused public opinion which demanded the outlawry of such groups as the Klan. That outraged public opinion was crystalized by the flogging of white newsmen outside of LaGrange or its environs a year or two ago. It was inspired by the shameful threats to the Chancellor and other educators of the University System of Georgia about the same time when three Negro educators were driven out of a meeting at Milledgeville by the Ku Klux Klan.

It means, therefore, that the State House as well as the Talmadge forces are catching up with public sentiment in the state. For there are several Georgia cities which have anti-mask ordinances. Citizens, like the members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, members of the Georgia Interracial Commission, together with many upstanding judges and lawyers have spoken and worked to put down the Klan as an unwholesome influence in any community, not merely because the United States Government has branded it Un-American and placed it on the subversive list, but for the very able reason given by Joe Bernard, of the Georgia Young People's League for Better Government a year ago when speaking for enactment of the antimask bill. He said: "Our representatives and senators (in Washington) are constantly embarrassed by incidents that could be avoided by an antimask bill."

We congratulate, therefore, not only the Talmadge forces, who in fact yielded to public sentiment, but likewise to Representative Muggsy Smith and Representative John Greer, who were brave and strong enough to stand up and be counted on this issue and helped to create public sentiment for its support. We owe them an everlasting debt for this. It is interesting to note again that Alec Boone, of Irwington, where Caleb Hill, Jr. was lynched in the Wilkinson County Jail, cast the one dissenting vote. A year ago, he is reported to have blessed the Klan by saying it possessed the noblest set of principles under the sun."

The Klan's Death Notice

Georgia has served official notice that the power of the Ku Klux Klan, long dead, has been buried. There were no tears at the funeral and even those who at one time claimed friendship for the sake of political expediency left the rites with dry eyes and a smile of satisfaction at having participated in the interment of a foul poor.

All that remains is the signing of the death certificate and that is assured.

The Georgia Senate, by an overwhelming vote of 38 to 0, yesterday followed the lead of the House and passed what probably was the most stringent antimask bill ever offered.

Again, as in the case of the House action, leaders of the Talmadge administration were instrumental in performing the good deed. It was, in fact, an Administration bill, introduced in the House by Speaker Fred Hand and Floor Leader Frank Twitty as a substitute for a milder bill previously proposed by opposition leaders.

In the Senate yesterday, as in the House on Monday, unanimous passage was asked by a Talmadge leader. The Senate complied. In the House there was a lone vote against it.

The new bill not only prohibits the wearing of a mask by any person over 16 years of age, except at Halloween and other celebrations and with consent of the property owner, but it also makes illegal the burning of crosses on private property. It is a good bill.

Gov. Talmadge has given assurance he will sign the measure into law. The Governor and his leaders are to be commended.

Thus comes to an end a long period in which Georgia politicians felt compelled, whether they liked it or not, to pay tribute to the Klan and furnish tacit protection for its illegal and un-Christian activities.

Actually, the Klan's political influence has been virtually insignificant for the past several years. But it has clung frantically to the fiction of omnipotence. There are only a few hundred members of the Klan in Georgia. Most of its leaders are cynics who are in the business of selling bedsheets and white hoods at a profit and taking the hard-earned money of the gullible and ignorant for "initiation" by a meaningless ritual.

That at the State's political leaders ever swayed by such an outfit has caused ians shame and disgust through the years. We are relieved that the blotch is about to be removed. And it is doubly gratifying it is being done under the impetus of a Talmadge administration.

Georgia House votes to unmask the klan

ATLANTA, Jan. 15—(AP)—The Georgia House today passed 149 to 1 a bill outlawing the hoods and masks of the Ku Klux Klan and banning the burning of crosses on private property without the owner's consent.

The bill as passed was a surprise substitute measure offered by House Speaker Fred Hand and other administration leaders.

Hand originally had introduced a bill merely requiring persons who wear masks in public to register with local police chiefs or sheriffs.

The substitute outlaws the wearing of masks or face-covering hoods in public anywhere, anytime by persons over 16 years old.

Klan Silent On Cancellation Of Meeting Permit

SAVANNAH —(INS)— Savannah Mayor Olin T. Fulmer, who revoked a city permit granted to the Ku Klux Klan for an "unmasked" meeting, said Friday that no complaints have been received from the Klansmen.

The Mayor said he banned the meeting scheduled for Daffin Park on January 13 "in the interest of national unity and accord in this time of national peril." He acted after the Justice Department confirmed that the KKK is on its subversive list.

KKK Report Draws Savannah Police

SAVANNAH, Jan. 13—(AP)—Reports that a Ku Klux Klan mass meeting was to be held here Saturday night despite lack of a city permit drew over 1000 city policemen to the Daffin Park site.

No klansmen showed up. Numerous autos were turned away from the area by police, but whether any contained KKK members was not certain.

Florida Unmasks KKK Hoodlums

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—The Ku Klux Klan will be unmasked in Florida. Definite assurance of this was made here Tuesday as the State Senate passed, without debate, a measure designed to curtail activities of the anti-Negro group by forbidding the wearing of masks or the unauthorized burning of crosses. The vote was 31-6.

The measure has been approved earlier by the House, and it is believed certain that Gov. Fuller Warren will sign the bill into law since he has been one of the state's most outspoken critics of the Klan, and was a sponsor of the measure.

Only one person appeared at committee hearings in opposition to the measure, Bill Hendriz, Florida Grand Dragon of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Bill Comes As Surprise Of Session

Dat. 1-20-51

Talmadge Faction Supports Measure Against Terrorists

ATLANTA — (INS) — In a surprise move today, the Georgia House of Representatives adopted by a vote of 149 to 1 a bill outlawing cross - burning and mob intimidations by the Ku Klux Klan.

The measure was drafted by House Speaker Fred Hand and Speaker Pro-Tem George Smith, both stalwarts in Gov. Herman Talmadge's administration.

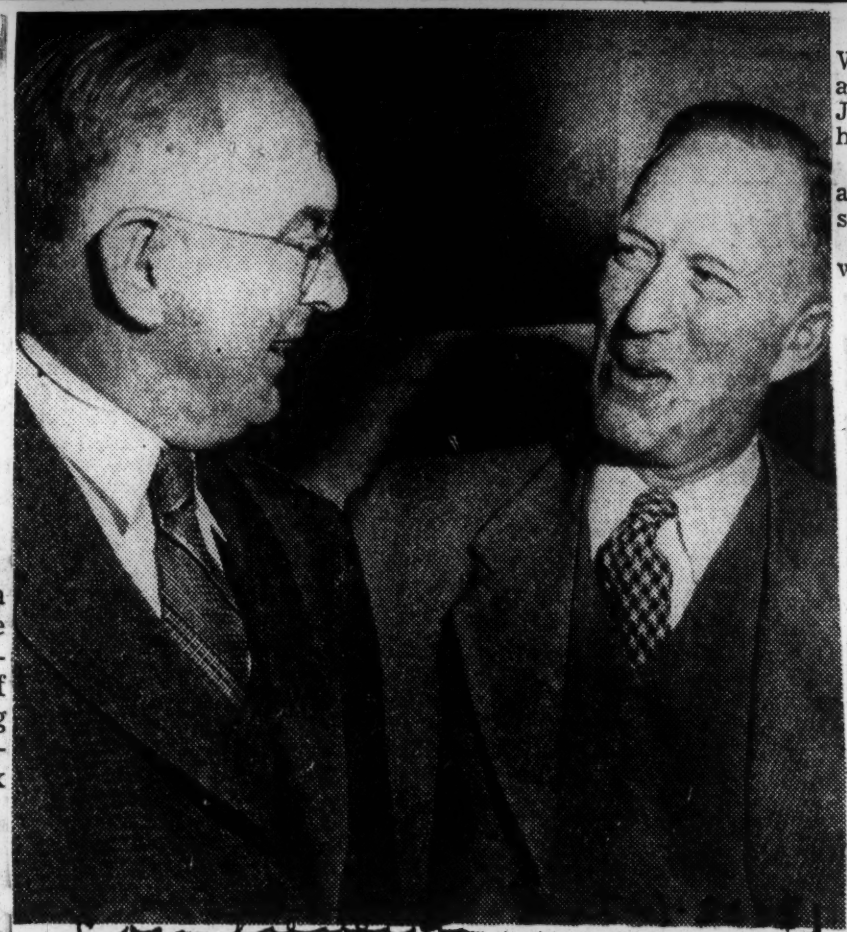
The bill was sent immediately to the Senate. Observers in the Upper House predicted it would be approved unanimously.

* * *

THE LONE DISSENTING vote in the House was cast by Rep. Alec Boone, of Irwinton. Boone, a weekly newspaper editor and self - styled unreconstructed rebel, waved the stars and bars as he voted "nay."

The measure was offered when another Talmadge-backed bill to force Klansmen to register prior to any demonstration, was read for debate in the House.

A bi - partisan move by Rep. John Greer, Talmadge opposition leader from Lanier county, asked unanimous passage of the surprise bill which is even more iron-clad than the original Anti-Klan Measure.



Constitution Staff Photo—Floyd Jillson

UNMASKING TRIBUTE—Just before the State Senate voted unanimously to ban masks, Sen. Peyton Hawes, right, of Elberton, said: "I think we should do as a body what one of our members already has done as an individual." He referred to Sen. Jim Peterson, left, who, as Mayor of Soperton a few years ago, personally jerked the masks from parading hoodlums and made cases against them.

Senate Passes Mask Bill And Home Rule Measure

The State Senate Friday overwhelmingly passed a proposal providing "home rule" on local constitutional amendments, and unanimously sent to the Governor a bill outlawing mask wearing, cross burnings and intimidations.

The anti-mask bill is the first general bill to hit the Governor's desk this session. Gov. Talmadge has announced he would sign such a measure, which was sponsored by administration leaders as a substitute for bills introduced both by the Talmadge leaders and administration critics.

The Senate's 38-to-0 approval of the anti-mask-bill followed the House's 149-to 1 vote. Only Rep. Alec Boone, of Wilkinson County, voted against the legislation.

The 38-to-2 approval of the "home rule" on local constitutional amendments indicated the strength the Municipal Home Rule Bill will have when it hits the Senate next week. The bill, permitting cities to pass their own purely local laws which do not conflict with state laws, was pased in the House 139 to 15.

Atlanta's Sen. Everett Millican sponsored the Constitutional Amendment to require that Local Constitutional Amendments be voted on only in the areas affected, instead of throughout the state. He argued that the 37 Local Amendments made the general election ballot last November too confusing, and Georgians generally were unconcerned with whether a locality here and there changed its local set-up.

Millican's neighbor, Sen. Harold Willingham of Marietta, spoke against the proposal. Sen. Vincent Jones, of Jackson, joined Willingham in voting against it.

The Senate joined the House in approving a resolution condeming socialized medicine.

Both houses adjourned for the weekend.

ALONG THEATER ROW

Crime and Klansmen Hit By 2 Crusading Films

By PAUL JONES

Two picture palaces cranked up Thursday with crusading movies against crime and the Ku Klux Klan. The only difference between the characters in both plays was that the thugs in one wore sheets over their heads.

A third theater contented itself with a wack comedy which is apt to get the lion's share of the box office trade.

The expose—"Storm Warning," which takes the robe off the Klan, and "Highway 301," which details the story of a band of killers and bank robbers—opened at the Paramount and Roxy Theaters, respectively. The only comedy, "At War With the Army," made its debut at the Fox.

NEWSPAPER STORIES about the Klan have exposed a lot more dirt and treachery than does Warner Bros.' "defiant filming" of the "inside story." But the story looks more dramatic on the big screen. It is a hard-hitting yarn which reflects courage on the part of the commercial movie studio which made it. Geared for a hefty box office return with Ginger Rogers, Doris Day and Ronald Reagan playing the leads, "Storm Warning" tells an ugly story about the hate fraternity and about how its anonymous hoodlums pound fear into a small town. A courageous prosecuting attorney unmasks them in a dramatic murder trial. Steve Cochran, who plays the "toughie" in both the Roxy and Paramount flickers, does creditable work in both. Rogers, Day and Reagan troupe according to form.

"HIGHWAY 301" is a formula type cops 'n' robbers yarn with more than its share of taunt action. Cochran is the grim-faced gunman who leads the gang known as the Tri-State mob through a series of murders and holdups which eventually prove once again that "crime doesn't pay." Cochran and Virginia Grey are the only "known" players, but the unfamiliar faces make for more authentic lensing of the fast-moving drama.

DEAN MARTIN and Jerry Lewis engage in the fastest and funniest of their series of pictures in "At War With the Army," now at the Fox. As you might have surmised, the plot is based on their experiences in the Army. It is a timely topic adaptable to the tastes of the entire family.

As a special added feature the Fox Thursday turned the spotlight on Organist Eddie Ford, who has been engaged to preside at the mighty console three times each day. Ford's opening program was delightful in every respect. His melodic offerings should attract new legions to the beautiful Mosque showcase.

WHEN A SHORT subject is held over that short subject must be a "lulu." Such a hit is "Beaver Valley," Walt Disney's real-life feature of animal life which is showing at the Rialto Theater. animals are interesting and entertainly chronicled in this technicolor subject, the first in a series by Disney.

'Wool-Woman' At Klan Meeting

"Aunt Beulah" Waller, 80-year-old self-styled wool-woman from Peach County, shared the spotlight during the weekend with the Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of the Carolinas at a cow-pasture gathering at Conway, S. C.

Thomas L. Hamilton, dressed in the green garb of his post, told some 2,000 white-robed Klansmen "the lid will stay on in Henry County." He explained that the Klan is not ready to expose the "gangster rackets" he said existed in the county.

"Aunt Beulah," from Echecoo-

ee and billed as the oldest Klanswoman in Georgia, spoke briefly, emphasizing her "trust in the Lord."

3 1951

Former Klan Head Must Serve Term

Minnesota Supreme Court Orders Stephenson's Return to Indiana

Indianapolis, Nov. 23 (AP)—D. C. Stephenson, former Indiana Ku Klux Klan leader, must serve out a life sentence for murder in Indiana State Prison—unless he can evade a Minnesota Supreme Court order.

Stephenson has not commented on today's order by the high court in St. Paul directing his return as a parole violator. But a technicality in the order appeared certain to delay his return for several days.

John R. O'Connor, Indiana deputy attorney general, said the Minnesota court's order specified that Stephenson be turned over to W. W. Pence, Indiana parole officer. Pence recently left State employment.

O'Connor said the attorney general's office would ask Governor Henry F. Schricker to write the Governor of Minnesota requesting that another parole officer be designated to return Stephenson.

Meantime, the graying former Klan leader, who ruled Indiana Republican politics in the early 1920's, will remain in custody of Sheriff Ed Ryan at Minneapolis.

The Minnesota high court's decision ended a year long legal battle by Stephenson to avoid being returned to the Indiana prison.

Paroled 20 months ago

He served 25 years after being convicted of murder in the death of Miss Madge Oberholtzer, a 24-year-old Indiana Statehouse worker. The State contended she took poison on a Chicago-bound train near Hammond, Ind., after a sexual attack by Stephenson.

He was paroled March 23, went to Oklahoma to live with a daughter, and later moved to Carbondale, Ill. His parole was revoked after parole officers said he failed to make required reports.

Stephenson was arrested November 15, 1950, in the Minneapolis suburb of Robbinsdale, where he was working as a printer.

Schricker requested his extradition and Luther W. Youngdahl, then Governor of Minnesota, signed an extradition order. Stephenson blocked his return by obtaining a writ of habeas corpus.

The writ was thrown out by District Judge Frank E. Reed in Minneapolis. Stephenson then appealed to the Minneapolis Supreme Court.

Political Fear Claimed

After a long delay the high court appointed Alfred Stolberg, a former district judge, as referee to hear the appeal. Stolberg decided Stephenson should be returned to Indiana, and the decision was upheld unanimously by the court.

Stephenson contended the only condition of his parole was that he stay out of Indiana for the rest of his natural life. He claimed the parole was revoked because he was feared in Indiana political circles.

Schricker left no doubt Indiana will return Stephenson as soon as possible.

"Stephenson will have to suffer the consequences of his parole violation," Schricker said. "He was given his chance and he did not take advantage of it."

KKK (Indiana)

EX-KLAN DRAGON RECALLS INDIANA SCANDAL OF 1925

Returns to Penitentiary After Brief Freedom

The return to prison recently of David C. Stephenson, 57, once grand dragon of the Indiana Ku Klux Klan, who had boasted that he was "the law in Indiana," added another page to the notorious case that has been publicized for 26 years.

Stephenson, who had served 25 years in the Indiana state penitentiary at Michigan City for the murder of a young woman social worker, was returned for violation of parole — a parole that was made possible in March, 1950, by Democratic Gov. Henry F. Schricker's commutation of his life sentence.

In commuting the sentence to one of "time served to life," Gov. Schricker said:

"He [Stephenson] has served 25 years — a pretty long span of life. I think that the Stephenson case is a page in Indiana history that ought to be closed."

Prepares for Parole

Gov. Schricker said he commutted the sentence on the recommendation of the state's clemency commission in order that Stephenson could be paroled.

Then, after Stephenson was arrested in Minneapolis the following November for parole violation, Gov. Schricker said:

"We'll bring him back to the state prison, and there he'll stay."

Gov. Schricker was not available yesterday for further comment on the case, but a secretary said that the governor had nothing to add to the statement.

Stephenson had been out of prison less than five months before he was arrested in Minneapolis. When paroled he was allowed to go to Tulsa, Okla., to live with his daughter, Mrs. Katherine Thompson. The following June he was permitted to move to Illinois to work in Carbondale and Cairo in the magazine and advertising field.

Fails to Report

In August he failed to report to the Illinois parole authorities and was reported as a violator. The Indiana authorities issued a warrant for his arrest. He was seized the following November in Minneapolis where he was employed as a printer.

The former Klan dragon, now bald and heavy set, fought extradition for a year, taking his case to the Minnesota Supreme court. He was ordered finally to be turned over to the Indiana authorities and last Friday was taken to the Michigan City prison.

The murder conviction of the former Klan dragon resulted from his rape assault on Madge Oberholtzer, 26, of Indianapolis, in a sleeping car between Indianapolis and Hammond in March, 1925. Before her death three weeks later she told the authorities how Stephenson had forced her by threats and a display of pistols to accompany him on a train ride to Chicago.

She said the Klan dragon took her off the train at Hammond and to a hotel where he registered them as man and wife. She was able to slip out of the hotel and to a drug store where she purchased bichloride of mercury tablets. She returned to the hotel room and swallowed six of the pills.

Taken to Indianapolis

Stephenson and his two bodyguards put the social worker in an automobile and took her back to Indianapolis and allowed her to go home after keeping her a prisoner for 24 hours.

Physicians testified at the trial that the effects of the assault contributed to her death. The late federal Circuit Judge Will M. Sparks, who presided at the trial in the Circuit court at Noblesville, Ind., instructed the jury that murder could be committed by indirection.

"Suicide may be murder — and that is for the jury to decide," he said.

The jury returned a verdict of murder in the second degree, carrying a life sentence. The Supreme court upheld the verdict. The former Klan head spent a fortune to have the courts upset the verdict and to be released from prison.

KKK(Louisiana)

Aided Klan

Ga. Sheriff's Appeal Fails

NEW ORLEANS—A Georgia sheriff and his deputy heard a Fifth Circuit U. S. Court of Appeals uphold their convictions on the grounds of denying several Negroes their constitutional rights here Saturday.

Dade County Sheriff John Lynch and Deputy William Hartline were accused of arresting the men without "good cause" and turning them over to a group of persons attired in Ku Klux Klan sheets in 1948. Both men must serve one year in jail and pay $1,000 fines under terms of their convictions.

Police Who Aided KKK Lose Appeal

NEW ORLEANS, La. (ANP)—The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last week upheld the conviction of a white sheriff and deputy for turning over prisoners in their charge to men dressed in the garb of the Ku Klux Klan. Guilty officials are Sheriff John Lynch and Deputy William Hartline of Dade County. Each man was fined $1000 and sentenced to a year in jail.

The court commented that on a night that Klansmen were on Hooker Hill making remarks about "colored disturbances," the two lawmen took several arrested colored persons there. The opinion continued:

"At the time of their arrest one of the men appealed to Sheriff Lynch for protection, but the sheriff walked away. The officers participated, or at least consented to these men being placed in cars and carried for a short distance and beaten..."

Cross Burned On Governor's Lawn

BATON ROUGE, La., Nov. 5.—A six-foot cross, draped with cloth, was burned on the lawn of the governor's mansion, city police reported.

Officers Sam Crosentino and Alvin Valentine, reporting their investigation, suggested:

"In all probability the burning of the cross was a pre-Halloween stunt."

Gov. Earl K. Long was reported out of town and unavailable for comment. Mansion attaches said they doubted whether he even knew of the incident.

Officers Crosentino and Valentine said they went to the mansion after receiving an inquiry about 11 p.m. from a Morning Advocate reporter. They said the newspaper had "received numerous calls."

They found the wodoen cross about six feet tall and draped with cloth, on the front lawn, the officers said, adding:

"It had burned itself out and fallen to the ground. No odor, such as kerosene or gasoline, was detected."

KKK (Michigan)

Cross Burnings Give Detroit KKK Scare

DETROIT — Four teen-aged boys' idea of a "funny prank" gave Detroit a taste of the Ku Klux Klan last week when five crosses were set afire on the lawns of Negro residents last week.

Swift action by trained community relations groups, however, quieted these fears and led to the establishment of a new community program aimed at establishing better human relations in the area.

The quartet of white boys and their parents met with the Negro residents in the office of Ass't. Prosecutor Nate Kaufman and the victims of the pranks agreed not to press charges if the new program of mutual understanding were carried out.

The NAACP, which also investigated the case, called on city officials to "take appropriate steps to safeguard the rights of Negro citizens against possible acts of violence." The association expressed the belief that the incident was "well designed to intimidate Negro neighbors and incite violence."

Former KKK Leader To Give Himself Up

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 4 (U.P.)—Former Indiana Ku Klux Klan Leader David C. Stephenson said today he has decided to give up his fight against extradition to Indiana on parole violation charges.

"I'm done fighting. I intend to return to Indiana and let justice take its course," said the pudgy Stephenson, once a political power in Indiana.

His decision was made today after a conference between Stephenson, Hennepin County Assistant Attorney Otto Morck and Stephenson's lawyer, Frank J. Warner.

Indiana authorities will pick Stephenson up Friday morning and return him to Indiana by train.

Warner said Stephenson "made the decision to discontinue his fight because everything has been done here that could be done."

Stephenson has been fighting extradition for nearly 13 months. He was arrested in suburban Robbinsdale as a fugitive Nov. 15, 1950, and has been held in Hennepin County (Minneapolis) Jail since that time.

Stephenson was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1925 for the brutal slaying of Madge Oberholtzer, Indiana state employe.

He once boasted "I am the law in Indiana."

'KKK' Threat Note Gets 4 Whites Held in Mississippi City

NATCHEZ, Miss. — (ANP)— Police detained for questioning two men and two women, all of whom are white, here last week on suspicion of having sent a threatening note to a colored woman.

According to the victim, a note was pushed under her door, warning her to "watch out" if she did not return a purse alleged to have been stolen from one of the women. The note, crudely printed on thin brown wrapping paper, told the victim to leave the purse "with the money" at Eola Hotel."

It was signed "KKK," and in the upper left hand corner was drawn a cross in which the letters "KKK" were in the center and the whole note smeared with red ink to signify blood.

JURY WILL TAKE UP FLOGGING OF NEGROES

4, Beaten In Fake Murder, To Be Heard Tomorrow

Special to The Commercial Appeal

INDIANOLA, Miss., Sept. 1.—A Sunflower County grand jury will look into the alleged flogging of four Negroes here recently when the Fall term of Circuit Court is convened here Monday.

The four Negroes, Amost Redmond, Jessie Davis, Jesse James Jr., and Willie Galloway, have accused a former deputy sheriff and a private detective of beating them until ill but Galloway confessed to a murder which didn't occur. The "victim," Robert McKinney, was located several days later visiting relatives in East St. Louis, Ill.

The deputy, Homer Sheffield, was relieved of his duties by Sheriff George Smith Marshall Jr. on Aug. 1, while the detective, C. R. Underwood of Cleveland, Miss., was extradited to Chicago to answer charges as a parole violator.

Only a smattering of burglary and larceny charges are to be brought before the grand jury by Dist. Atty. Stanny Sanders and County Prosecutor P. B. Townsend.

The civil docket also is light, indicating that the term will be cut short by Judge Arthur Jordan of Greenwood, who will preside. The civil cases are to be heard as the grand jury considers criminal evidence. Any cases resulting from true bills by the grand jury will be tried during the second half of the scheduled four-week session.

Klan Uses Guns And Sticks To Beat Woman And Veteran

WHITEVILLE, N. C. — (SNS) — Mrs. Evergreen Flowers, resident of Whiteville, was questioned by authorities Tuesday in connection with an attack made upon her home last Thursday.

The attack, in which Mrs. Flowers was badly beaten was the second of its kind in the Carolinas in a week's time. She told police that 40 or 50 white men forced their way into her home last Thursday and beat her with sticks and a gun while her husband was running for help. Sheriff H. Hugh Nance said some of the members of the Ku Klux Klan may have taken part in both raids.

The first night riding attack came last Wednesday when a robed and hooded mob lashed a disabled war veteran and his crippled uncle in Conway, South Carolina which is 45 miles from Whiteville.

After the first attack, Sheriff C. E. Sasser of Conway said he was swearing in five new deputies. He said he would get "a hundred more" if it was needed to end the terroism.

Near this same time what has been reported as more than 1,200 Catholic priests and prelates met at Columbia, South Carolina, and were told that the south's "backwardess' in race relations was hurting the United State's chances in efforts to impress other nations with the "American way of life."

Bishop William T. Mulloy of Covington, Ky., told the catholic committee that "Southern unapplied democarcy stands out boldly, and that what he called an un christian attitude was an obstacle to nations who inquire into our way of life."

Sheriff Nance planned to question Mrs. Flowers to learn if she could identify any of the mob which pulled the sneak attack while she, her husband and ten year old daughter were asleep.

Sheriff Sasser said he felt the klan was definitely responsible for the floggings, and promised to take care of curbing such activities no matter what it took. The attack in Conway is the third outbreak of violence in six months.

Ku Klux Klan Brands N.C.U.

WHITEVILLE, N. C. (ANP) —Some 5,000 spectators and about 55 robed Klansmen gathered here last week and heard two Klu Klux Klan leaders brand the University of North Carolina as Communistic and urge that it be boycotted.

Purpose of the meeting was to object to the admittance of Negroes to the graduate school of the University of North Carolina.

"There will be many more meetings like this in North Carolina in coming months," Thomas L. Hamilton, South Carolina Grand Dragon declared, "and we will oppose ending of segregation to the last drop."

Hamilton said the Klan "has a very strong men's organization in Columbus county and a woman's organization is being formed."

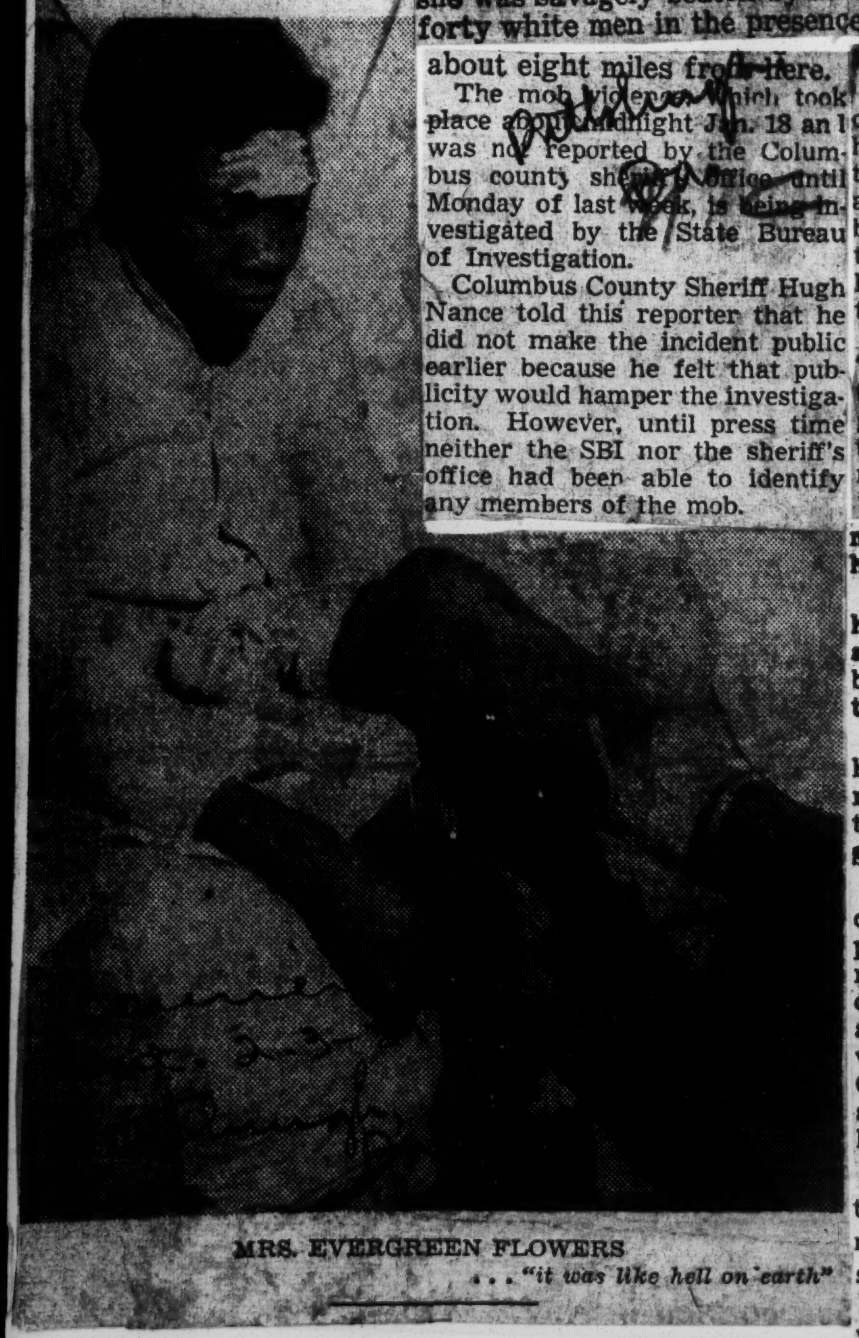
"I have only one daughter," he added, "but if she were in the University of North Carolina, I'd take her out."

Bill Hendricks, grand dragon of the Florida Klan, the other speaker was applauded when he said:

"People of the South have died and fought for segregation . . . . we'll keep on fighting.

"The University of North Carolina is a hotbed of Communism," continued Hendricks. "From now on, let's keep those politicians, who think so much of Negroes, out of office."

Woman Beaten By Mob Of Forty



MRS. EVERGREEN FLOWERS
..."it was like hell on earth"

Wife Whipped as Mate Flees

Night of Terror In Farm House

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.

CHADBOURN, N. C.—"It was like hell on earth," Mrs. Evergreen Flowers described the night of terror on which she was savagely beaten by an armed mob of approximately forty white men in the presence of her 10-year-old daughter about eight miles from here.

The mob violence which took place about midnight Jan. 18 and was not reported by the Columbus county sheriff's office until Monday of last week, is being investigated by the State Bureau of Investigation.

Columbus County Sheriff Hugh Nance told this reporter that he did not make the incident public earlier because he felt that publicity would hamper the investigation. However, until press time neither the SBI nor the sheriff's office had been able to identify any members of the mob.

ENTERED BY TRICK

Mrs. Flowers, a frail woman of about 100 pounds, said her husband, Willie Flowers, and their daughter, Rosa Lee, were aroused from their sleep shortly before midnight on the night of the attack by a man who said he needed help to repair a flat tire.

According to Mrs. Flowers "Willie went to the door, saw the mob and ran to get his shot gun, which was in the back of the house, but discovered he had no shells." She said her husband then ran about a quarter of a mile to summon his brother for help.

Flowers told police that when he ran several shots were fired at him. This was substantiated by empty shells found around the house later.

Mrs. Flowers said it was after her husband had left that the mob stormed her door and attacked her.

STRUCK WITH GUN

She continued: "When they came in the house I begged and pleaded with them not to bother me. I told them that we hadn't done anything and I began to cry and scream. By this time, Rosa was also crying and hollering. One of the men told her that if she didn't shut up he'd shoot her head off.

"I got so excited that I began to yell for help and one of the men knocked me down with the stock of a shotgun."

According to Mrs. Flowers, when she regained consciousness she was lying prostrate in the road in front of her house. "I was staill dazed," she recalled, "but I was desperately trying to escape death, so I jumped up and started to run when someone tripped me.

'TIED WITH ROPE'

"They grabbed me then and tied me up with something which felt like a tow rope. Several men lifted me up to put me into the trunk of a car, but stopped when one of the mobsters said, 'Leave her alone, she hasn't done anything'."

The Flowers family has not spent a night on their six-acre farm since the night of the apparently unprovoked brutality. Mrs. Flowers and her daughter have moved in with her sister, Mrs. Catherine Tart, in the Cerro Gordo section between Chadburn and Tabor City.

Mr. Flowers, whom this reporter could not contact for an interview, has returned to his farm daily to feed the chickens and stock, but spends his nights elsewhere.

Though the victimized family denied that anyone in the community would have any reason to want to harm them, an investigation conducted by this reporter revealed quite the opposite.

CARS IDENTIFIED

Neighbors of the Flowers family reporetd that Mr. Flowers and a white neighbor, whose property lines join, have had considerable difficulty over their property boundaries. It is a matter of public record that the property has been surveyed more than once by private surveyors and once by the state surveyors, and that the dispute has never been settled to the satisfaction of the complaining white neighbor.

It is known that the State Bureau of Investigation is in possession of this information. It is reported that several of the cars have been identified.

Dr. G. W. Carnes, Whiteville physician, who treated Mrs. Flowers, told The Courier that she came to him for treatment about 10 A. M., Friday. She was weak from the loss of blood and in a highly nervous state. He said he treated her for bruises all over her body.

"I asked Flowers why he waited so long to bring his wife in to me," Dr. Carnes said. Flowers explained that he didn't have enough gas in his car to make it to town. The distance from Chadburn to Whiteville is less than ten miles.

This is traditionally one of the most intolerant sections of North Carolina.

Man Says KKK Forced Him To Eat Spark Plugs

RALEIGH, N. C.—(ANP)— Leon Burns, 38-year-old swallower of metal objects, came up with a whopper of a story in St. Agnes hospital last week.

Burns told a physician that "a white mob, maybe Ku Klux Klan, ro[redacted] je[redacted] son, Ga. Upon [redacted] stomach was found to contain seven spark plugs, eight keys, a car wheel balance, an unfired bullet and part of a knife blade. All were removed from his stomach.

Burns said he had walked all the way from Jefferson to Raleigh after the incident.

However, a local auto shop superintendent told a different story. He said that Burns walked into his shop one day and offered to eat auto parts if mechanics would pay him for it.

In Durham, officials at Washington hospital said a man answering Burns' description, was brought in several weeks ago with a stomachful of metal junk. They left it there after X-raying him, because they found no apparent ill-effects.

Burns claimed that at one time he was on the late Robert Ripley's "Believe It or Not" show, and that he had a stomach which could digest steel.

GROUP'S MILITANCY RESENTED:

Forces of Ku Klux Klan on Upsurge in Carolinas

By LUCIUS JONES
(AFRO Staff Correspondent)

WHITEVILLE, N.C. — Anti - colored and anti - Catholic sentiment has risen to a new high and racial hatred has been established as a powerful motivation of the rebirth of the undemocratic Ku Klux Klan forces in both North and South Carolina.

The South Carolina forces, chagrined and resentful of Federal suits launched against the jim-crowism in South Carolina public schools by the NAACP rallied in secret meetings and have once again set up strong Klan units and have invaded the Tar Heel State and organized strong racial hatred forces here too.

The most recent meeting here last week, with racial hate and religious oppression as a theme, attracted more than 5,000 all-white spectators.

Anti-Masking Law Cited

Gov. Kerr Scott has given full support to the police forces of this community to enforce the anti-masking law which the present KKK forces have allegedly violated.

Following the lead of the Governor, Solicitor Clifton L. Moore has declared that any maskers found in the KKK activities or ceremonies will be arrested and jailed.

Solicitor Moore quoted a law of 1869 forbidding a political organization to appear masked in public or to lease private property for a masked meeting.

Governor Scott, praising Mr. Moore, said, "The solicitor is taking the right steps and anything the State can do to help, it will. We will work with him in any way he wishes."

Sheriff on the Alert

Sheriff Hugh Nance has assigned all available deputies to patrol meetings held by the KKK forces since the first activities of the organization, headed by Thomas L. Hamilton of Leesville, S.C., grand dragon of the allied Carolina Klans.

Hamiltom and Bill Hendrix, race hate candidate for Governor of Florida, led the robed demonstration here, the sheriff told this newsman. Hendrix was described as a building contractor, heavily tied up with undemocratic politics.

According to information gained, Hamilton opened the race hate meeting with prayer and closed it with prayer, but Hendrix, between the prayers, made loud decrees against racial and religious groups and individuals in government and the churches.

He charged that the FBI is the only agency of the government that is not "infiltrated" with Communists.

To the 97 hooded Klan enthusiasts, Hendrix is quoted as saying:

"There was bloc - voting in the Graham - Smith Senatorial campaign and Graham got 98 per cent of the vote in some colored precincts, and that is evidence that colored folk can't vote their independent judgment.

"If they don't do more than just mark a name somebody tells them to mark, or punch a number on a voting machine, they shouldn't have the right to vote."

Talks of Cicero Episode

Expressing disdain over the incident in which a colored family was run out of a white section and their apartment damaged by a mob, Hendrix ranted on:

"I understand 7,000 people ganged up and ran one little n----r out of Cicero. I bet I could have put on a white robe and 50 of them would have left there."

This point in Hendrix's talk was the only spoken indication of the program that the new KKK, billed as a "patriotic secret fraternity," would revert to the ancient terrorism, hoodlumism and mob violence to ain unlawful, undemocratic objectives.

Columbus County, bordering the State of South Carolina, has turned out to be one of a number of eastern North Carolina areas where racial feeling have flared highest since the Graham - Smith Senate campaign.

The group has been identified with several violent mob actions in Horry, S.C., just across the border from Whiteville, and one klansman was killed in a demonstration at Myrtle Beach, S.C., last year.

Turns Down Invitation To Rejoin Ku Klux Klan

RALEIGH —(ANP)— A former grand dragon of the North Carolina Ku Klux Klan last week turned down an invitation to join the Southern Klan.

Superior Court Judge Henry A. Grady said Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon of the South Carolina Klan, invited him to join just before a rally recently held near Whiteville.

Judge Grady said Hamilton asked him if he would consider rejoining the Klan. He quoted Hamilton as saying, "We were hoping we might get you back."

The judge said he replied: "You are wasting time."

Hamilton then asked him to address the Klan rally, but Judge Grady replied:

"They haven't printed enough money for me to do that."

Judge Grady served as grand dragon of the North Carolina Klan from 1919 to 1925. He said he quit because it was taken over nationally by what he described as a "bunch of rogues."

He said that when he withdrew from the Klan, there were more than 350 members in Raleigh, including former governors whom he declined to identify.

Hamilton has been in the news recently in relation to a speech delivered at Cowpens, S.C., site of a battle in the Revolutionary War.

Some 100-rain soaked persons attending the rally heard the leader of the South Carolina KKK say the Klan is ready "to shed blood to keep the Negro in his place."

"The first time Negroes enter white schools in this state," he said, "that is the time blood will flow in the streets. The KKK will shed blood to see segregation is maintained in South Carolina."

His statements were directed at Gov. James F. Byrnes' warning to the Klan to avoid violence.

Trade Unionists Protest N.C. Ku Klux Meetings

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — At its regular monthly meeting the Executive Board of the Tri-State Negro and Allied Trade Union Council, which was held in its newly opened headquarters, went on record as protesting the recent meeting of the Ku Klux Klan in Whiteville.

Representatives from Charleston, S.C., Asheville, Durham, Rocky Mount and Winston - Salem attended the Council meeting.

The Board sent a letter to Governor Kerr Scott, urging that he stop the meeting of the Klan in North Carolina on the grounds that the Klan's efforts to intimidate colored and white workers in their joint fight for better working conditions must be opposed by all trade union leaders and members as well as other decent minded citizens in the State.

Post Card Campaign

The Board launched its fight against job discrimination by supporting a post card campaign to the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, makers of Camel cigarettes and Prince Albert smoking tobacco protesting the Company's practice of laying off colored women workers (with more than 20 years continued service) at the same time that young, new white workers were being hired.

The campaign further protested the Company's refusal to grant unemployment compensation to its one thousand seasonal workers, all of whom are colored women.

A copy of the post card was sent to the national office of the Negro Labor Council in Detroit asking their support in the campaign.

New Charters Sought

The Winston-Salem local chapter was granted a charter by the Board. Representatives from the other cities reported that they would be prepared to ask for charters at the next Board meeting which is scheduled for Durham this month.

The NATUC is a membership organization open to all members of trade unions, colored and white, who are interested in fighting for job rights for colored workers.

Editor Gets Klan Threat

WILMINGTON, N. C. — (ANP) — Negro newspaper publisher, T. C. Jervay, was threatened here for printing editorials against the "Klan." According to reports, threats were made by two telephone calls. The voice in the first threat said, "Tell Jervay that if he writes another editorial against the Klan, We'll have to burn some crosses here."

The second telephone threat advised Jervay to get out of town. A few minutes after this, a white taxicab followed by a Negro cab drove up in front of the Jarvay home. The Negro cab driver said that he had been instructed to go to the Jervay's house, and get him into the cab.

The editorials, which apparently started the Klan action, were in recent issues of Jervay's publication, "Wilmington Journal."

Report Hooded Mobs Attack And Terrorize Carolina Residents

Klan Uses Guns And Sticks To Beat Woman And Veteran

WHITEVILLE, N. C. — (SNS) — Mrs. Evergreen Flowers, resident of Whiteville, was questioned by authorities Tuesday in connection with an attack made upon her home last Thursday.

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After the first attack, Sheriff C. E. Sasser of Conway said he was swearing in five new deputies. He said he would get "a hundred more" if it was needed to end the terrorism.

Near this same time what has been reported as more than 1,200 Catholic priests and prelates met at Columbia, South Carolina, and were told that the south's "backwardess' in race relations was hurting the United State's chances in efforts to 'impress other nations with the "American way of life."

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Sheriff Sasser said he felt the klan was definitely responsible for the floggings, and promised to take care of curbing such activities no matter what it took. The attack in Conway is the third outbreak of violence in six months.

KKK Activity—WHITEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 19—Riding mules, carrying a flaming torch, robed and hooded Klansmen parade at a rally here. Said T. L. Hamilton, Leesville, S. C., dragon of the Carolinas, "the klan will again progress in North Carolina."

Klan Threats Don't Halt N.C. Publisher

RALEIGH, N.C. — T. C. Jervay, publisher of the Wilmington (N.C.) Journal and staff writer on the Carolinian, last week made the fact known that despite threats from the Ku Klux Klan, he will continue his journalistic fight against an invasion of the State by the hooded order.

After having received two threatening letters recently, Jervay reported the matter to County Solicitor Cicero Yow and was insured by the official that he would receive "every protection possible."

Last Wednesday, it was learned, an officer from the State Bureau of Investigation closeted himself with Jervay for about an hour to discuss the threats and their probable source.

Governor at Last Awoke

The case — along with several others arising over KKK threats to white newsmen — has been brought to the attention of Gov. Kerr Scott, who reportedly stated: "We're not going to take any foolishness from the Klan."

Governor Scott, who has been roundly criticized for his apparent lack of awareness of Klan activities in North Carolina, warmed up to his subject when told that a white semi-weekly newspaper had been warned by the hoodlum order to "watch its step."

Pulls in "Red Herring"

He seemed, nevertheless, to be afraid of attacking the Klan for its evil nature, then, and went on to ring in the "red" issue in his condemnation of subversive forces in the State, although no "red" question had arisen.

Said Governor Scott:

"Both the Klan and Communists are obnoxious to the people of this State. The Communists want to overthrow the government; while the Klan wants to take the place of government."

Our Opinions

The KKK Carnival

VERY FEW Americans who are seriously concerned about American democracy can take any comfort from such demonstrations of un-Americanism as was witnessed last week near Whiteville, N. C. Some 5,000 spectators and 40 cops were on hand as a band of Klansmen dressed in robes and masks carried out their cross-burning ceremonies, dedicating themselves to the very devil himself.

We are sure that the enemies of our country took great delight in this spectacle. Here was a juicy item of propaganda made to order for those who are trying to convince all of Asia and the rest of the world that American democracy is a sham and that our spokesmen who talk of freedom and individual liberty are just a bunch of fakers.

Some of the participants in that heathen ceremony no doubt have sons and kinsmen on the battlefronts of Korea. The Communists have stirred up hatred in the breasts of the Chinese and Koreans for Americans and they have made excellent use of the Ku Klux Klan and its white supremacy doctrines to teach these non-whites to hate the United States. The Klansmen are literally pointing a gun at the hearts of their own children by providing weapons for our enemies.

The Klan organization represents a criminal conspiracy against our citizenship and the Constitution of the United States, it is a Trojan horse ready at hand for use by the enemy. The silly coddling of the KKK and the appeasement of these white supremacists who believe in violence to achieve their ends should stop. The KKK is founded on immorality and heathenism. It is a totalitarian ideology and a menance to our constitutional democracy. It preaches hatred against Catholics, Jews and Negroes and if we continue to countenance its operations we shall be giving aid and comfort to those who are killing our sons in Korea.

Disregards Threats of Klansmen

North Carolina Publisher Still Writes Rebukes

WILMINGTON, N. C. — Thomas C. Jervay, 37-year-old Negro publisher, ignored telephone threats Tuesday and issued another stinging rebuke to the Ku Klux Klan in the editorial columns of his Wilmington Journal.

Jervay said he has been promised full protection by city officials and will continue to exercise his right to say what he thinks is "true and just."

The publisher first reported being threatened last week and then received a series of anonymous telephone calls Saturday night. But he declared:

"Klan threats are not going to keep me from writing editorials about that un-American bunch."

He accused the KKK of attempting to hide its "foul deeds under the cloak of Christianity and Americanism."

The publisher said he has received anonymous calls from "persons who apparently represent Klan elements—if not the Klan—who warned me not to write any more editorials about the KKK."

Jervay, said Wilmington officials "have promised us full protection and we're going ahead and exercise our right to say what we think is true and just."

Jervay said he got his first threat last week. Then Saturday night, after a number of anonymous callers telephoned, he charged the "elements posing as the Klan" sent a taxi for me.

Jervay called the hooded fraternity "a sin against Christianity," and added:

"We still have freedom of speech, and we shall continue to write of the Klan's and any other un-American activity."

ANDERSON, S. C. — (INS) — Two men who claimed they were mauled by Ku Klux Klansmen near Anderson Saturday night declined to prefer charges against the hooded order Monday.

Sheriff Clint McClain, of Anderson county, identified the men as J. H. Kimbo and J. T. Smith, both farmers who reside near Anderson. Eye-witnesses said the men were struck by Kluxers fists.

James R. Young, associate editor of the Anderson Daily Mail, said he believes that Smith and Kimbo "might well fear reprisal" from the Klan if they undertake court action.

The farmers were slugged, according to Sheriff McClain, at a fiery cross burning which blocked U. S. highway 27.

Thomas L. Hamilton, who claims to be the KKK grand dragon of the Carolinas, spoke at the meeting, assailing South Carolina's state senators for their unanimous approval of an anti-lynching bill.

Editor Young and P. D. Hall, Anderson newspaper photograper, were threatened by the Kluxers when Hall attempted to make pictures at the masked meeting.

Kluxers Send 3 Warnings

Publisher Told To 'Get Out of Town'; Governor Blasts Klansmen

By A. M. RIVERA, Jr.

RALEIGH, N. C.—In a scathing denunciation of the Ku Klux Klan, W. Kerr Scott, outspoken Tar Heel Governor, called the Klan "as obnoxious and as un-American as communism." The Governor's blast came in answer to a question asked by this reporter at his regular weekly press conference.

When told that two editors, one white and one Negro, had been intimidated and threatened with bodily harm if they didn't leave their home towns, Scott said, "North Carolina is not going to take any foolishness from the Ku Klux Klan" and hinted that the State Bureau of Investigation was probing these reported incidents.

An official of the SBI admitted that the bureau was investigating threats reportedly received by Millard G. Cole, editor of the Whitesville News-Reporter, and Thomas C. Jervay, editor of the Wilmington Journal. Mr. Cole, the white editor, received a "watch your step" letter from a sympathetic "friend" of the Ku Klux Klan, who demanded that he stop his editorial attacks on the Klan.

Mr. Jervay, however, was ordered not only to stop writing about the Klan but to get out of town. It is significant that the infamous 1898 riot staged in Wilmington by a band of self-righteous saviors of the South was touched off by the writings of Alex Manley, Negro editor of the Wilmington paper.

Governor Scott admitted that his grandfather had been a member of the Klan during Reconstruction but stated that there is a lot of difference between the original Klan and this organization of "dishonorable" men, today."

TWO WARNINGS

Jervay told reporters that he received two warnings last Saturday to refrain from writing any more editorials about the Klan and to get out of town. A third message came by way of a Negro cab driver who told Jervay that he had been hired by the Klan to take him to them. Jervay answered all these threats with the assurance that, "Klan threats are not going to keep me from writing editorials about that un-American bunch."

Efforts to revive the Klan in North Carolina were first reported in the Courier by this writer July 2, 1948. Two weeks ago Thomas L. Hamilton, Grand Dragon of the Carolinas Ku Klux Klan, spoke to a gathering at Whitesville, N. C., which advertised in advance that thousands would participate in a Klan rally, although actually only about 100 showed up.

GREEN IN DURHAM

Just before Dr. Samuel Green, former Grand Dragon, died it was reported that he made a visit to Durham on Klan business.

Former Superior Court Judge Henry A. Grady, now an emergency judge, was at one time the grand dragon of the organization. He later denounced the Klan, convicted some of its members for flogging and finally ordered it dissolved in the state.

There are many instances of other state notables whose affiliation was not unearthed until they were dead. The population was shocked to read that the robed order performed the customary Klan burial ritual over the bier of J. Bryan Grimes, former N. C. Secretary of State, and Clarence Johnson, prominent Raleigh businessman.

The charter under which the Klan previously operated in North Carolina was revoked for non-payment of taxes.

N. C. Editor Threatened By Kluxers

T. C. Jervay Warned Against Publishing Anti-Klan Editorials

Special to Journal and Guide

WILMINGTON, N. C. — Warned once by an early afternoon phone call to cease writing editorials against the Ku Klux Klan, T. C. Jervay, publisher of the Wilmington Journal, received another call late Saturday night telling him to "get out of town," he said.

According to the publisher, the first call, taken by one of his employees, said: "Tell Jervay if he writes another editorial against the Klan, we'll have to burn some crosses here."

Having notified County Solicitor Cicero Yow, who told him to let him know immediately if he received another threat, the publisher received the second call. Later, he said, two cabs, one white and the other colored, arrived at his home. The colored cab driver, informed him that he had been told to get him into the cab.

* * *

Smith, after hearing of the threat, is reported to have said: "We don't need anything here to displace law and order, and hoodlums will not be allowed to usurp law and order in New Hanover County."

The Klan, in a recent South Carolina uprising, has been attempting to defy law and order edicts, and recently held a cross-burning session protesting pending anti-lynch leg-

flogged during the lynch-law session. Two white men were

Crowd Ignores Klan Threat At Clarence Mitchell Meet

AIKEN, S. C.—Defying Ku Klux Klan threats, several hundred citizens crowded the Friendship Baptist Church here to hear Clarence Mitchell, director of the Washington Bureau of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and South Carolina officials of the NAACP, report on efforts to get full and fair employment on the H-bomb project being developed near this city.

The Atomic Energy Commission and DuPont officials had earlier assured an NAACP committee that employment would be offered without discrimination, Mr. Mitchell reported. He noted, however, that Negroes had not been included in the initial hirings and urged colored citizens to file applications for employment immediately.

The meeting, held on January 26, followed a conference in Augusta, Ga., with AEC officials. Participating in this conference were Mr. Mitchell; J. M. Hinton, president of the South Carolina Conference of NAACP branches; Eugene Montgomery, executive secretary of the South Carolina Conference; J. C. Artemus, a member of the executive committee of the South Carolina Federation of Labor; H. J. Hardy, a solid conservation expert; William Wilburn; Dr. C. C. Johnson and R. A. Brooks.

It is estimated, Mr. Mitchell said, that some 2,500 Negroes will be forced to move from the bomb site area, which is located in Aiken and Barnwell counties The NAACP is giving special attention to their problems through the South Carolina Conference and the Washington Bureau.

Klan Dragon Would Banish S. C. Floggers

WALTERBORO, S. C., Feb. 3 (AP)—Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon of the Association of Carolinas Klans, told a public KKK meeting near here Saturday night that he would banish from the organization any klansmen found guilty of whipping anyone.

He denied again that the KKK had anything to do with three incidents in Horry County during the last eight months in which men were beaten by nightriders.

Hamilton, dressed in a green robe, also told his audience of about 300 that the Carolinas Klans would sponsor a Democratic candidate for president of the United States in 1952. He said, "if you knew who he was, you would vote for him."

Hamilton, who spoke from a truck flanked by two electric crosses and near where a 10-foot gasoline-soaked cross burned, said the South Carolina Department of Public Welfare is "fostering immorality" by paying benefits to people who have illegitimate children. He said one Negro woman —whom he did not name—has eight children, each by a different man, and is being paid benefits.

The grand dragon said that leading citizens in all counties of South Carolina are members of the Klan.

He said again that the Klan wears masks only at its own private rites, not at public meetings.

There were about half a dozen other robed klansmen at the meeting.

Handbills were distributed announcing another public KKK meeting and cross burning at Allendale on Friday night, Feb. 16.

Byrnes Signs Anti-Mask Legislation

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 10—(AP)—South Carolina got an anti-mask and anti-intimidation law Tuesday.

Gov. James F. Byrnes, who called for such a law in his inaugural address, signed the act only a few hours after it was sent to him by the General Assembly.

He said in a statement that the act "means stricter control of those who would try to take the law into their own hands."

It also means, he added, that the Ku Klux Klan "cannot parade with masks."

The act outlaws the wearing of masks and cross-burning on public property, or on private property without the owner's permission. Assaults on or intimidation of others by masked persons also would be prohibited.

The maximum penalty for violation of the new law is $500 fine and six months in jail.

Southeast Is Unmasking the Klan

By Henry Lesesne

COLUMBIA, S. C.

THE post-war Ku-Klux Klan has now been stripped of its masks in the Southeastern states where it has been most active. Florida is the latest state to enact anti-mask and anti-intimidation legislation aimed at the secret order, and it is the third state to take such action this spring.

A little earlier Georgia and South Carolina Legislatures adopted stringent anti-mask laws. The first Southern state in the post-war period to enact a state anti-mask law was Alabama. The Alabama Legislature acted quickly in the summer of 1949 in the midst of an upsurge of Klan-type terrorism.

Organizations and individuals in the South trying to stamp out mob violence and hoodlumism do not expect these new laws to wipe out Ku-Kluxery immediately or to prevent an occasional Klan outrage, but they do believe they will put an effective crimp in the spread of the secret order.

For one thing, they believe these new laws reflect an aroused public opinion influencing the trend of official attitude toward the Klan. For another, the Klan, stripped of its masks in public demonstrations and parades and prevented from burning crosses, will not hold as much appeal for the types of persons inclined to join it.

In addition to the four states which have adopted anti-Klan statutes, more than forty cities and municipalities, mostly in Florida, Georgia and North Carolina, have adopted anti-mask and anti-cross-burning ordinances in the last few years.

The Klan has not been particularly active outside those four states. It has made several efforts to gain a foothold in North Carolina but has made little headway. Local authorities in North Carolina cities and towns have been so firm in dealing with the situation that there was no agitation for an anti-Klan law during the recent session of the North Carolina General Assembly.

In South Carolina, Gov. James F. Byrnes in his inaugural address called for a strong anti-Klan law. The Legislature adopted one with a minimum of debate. Likewise, in Florida, the anti-Klan legislation went through without a hitch and with negligible opposition.

AEC bars Klansmen from employment on H-bomb project

ATLANTA, Oct. 22— (AP) —The Atomic Energy Commission is barring Ku Klux Klansmen from employment on the H-bomb project near Aiken, S. C., The Atlanta Journal reported Saturday.

The newspaper's story added that Grand Dragon Tom Hamilton of the Association of South Carolina Klans had protested publicly.

AEC Manager Curtis Nelson merely commented, "we do not hire members of organizations listed by the attorney general's office as subversive groups."

HAMILTON WAS quoted by The Journal as saying a number of Klansmen had been refused jobs on the $900,000,000 project and declared his organization "stands ready to fight such action."

The grand dragon, The Journal continued, insisted that federal investigators "go back into a white man's community and check him from A to Z. They are hiring Negroes without any checkups whatsoever."

In 1949 Atty. Gen. Tom Clark listed three Klan organizations as being subversive. They were the Association of Georgia Klans, the Knights of the White Camellia and Original Southern Klans, Inc.

Asks Arrest Of Cops Who Jailed Praying Ku Kluxers

CONWAY, S. C.—(INS)—Sheriff C. E. Sasser said a Deacon of the Cane Branch Baptist Church of Conway, S. C. "had no right to invite members of the Ku Klux Klan to church."

The Sheriff spoke in defending his deputies against whom warrants have been brought because they arrested Klansmen at the church.

Sasser said three women came to his office to inform him last week that members of the Klan planned to attend church last Wednesday night.

Fourteen persons, dressed in KKK regalia, were arrested near the church. Two others were arrested the next day.

A. L. Tyler, a deacon of the church, swore out warrants for the six arresting deputies, cnarging them with unlawful arrests on church property, using obscene or profane language and breaking up a religious service.

IN ANSWERING the accusation, Sasser said: "The arrests were made quietly. I doubt if anyone in the church would have known about it if two men hadn't seen the arrests from a church window."

The arrested men were charged with violation of the anti-mask law passed by the General Assembly this year. The law prohibits wearing of masks on public property.

Sasser maintains the men were arrested on the road outside the church, but he added: "It wouldn't have made any differenec, the property on which the church is built belongs to the church members."

KKK Pledges Bloodshed on School Mixing

GAFFNEY, S.C.—Firmly asserting that the Ku Klux Klan is ready to "shed blood" to keep "the colored man in his place in South Carolina," Grand Dragon Thomas L. Hamilton offered renewed defiance to Gov. James F. Byrne's warning to the klan to avoid violence.

Hamilton made the anti-racial remarks last week to a glum, rain-soaked gathering of more than 1,000 whites in a field 10 miles from here.

The ceremony was guarded by Sheriff Julian B. Wright and a force of 10 State troopers, three city policemen and several State constabulary officers. The site of the program was that of the memorable old battle of Cowpens, S.C., in the Revolutionary War of 1775.

Predicts Flow of Blood

Hamilton, among other race-baiting statements, said:

"The first time colored people enter white schools in this State, that is the time the blood will flow in the streets. The klan will shed blood to see segregation is maintained in South Carolina."

Hamilton has threatened to sue the Junior Chamber of Commerce for terming the klan "un-American," but top executives of the Chamber have already announced their challenge to the klan on the whole issue, and stated publicly that the KKK would be guilty of "ridiculous" judgment if it attempted to deny the charge.

DEACON'S WARRANT COMPLICATES RAID BY KU KLUX ON CHURCH MEETING IN CAROLINA COMMUNITY

Sheriff's Deputies Arrested Who Sought To Quell Unlawful Activities of Hooded Masked Riders

CHARGE VIOLATION OF UNMASKING LAW

CONWAY, S. C. — (ANP) — Warrants were sworn out this week against the six Sheriff deputies who participated in the arrest of 14 Ku Klux Klanmen who invaded Cane Branch church here.

A. L. Tyler, a deacon of the church, obtained the warrants charigng the deputies with unlawful arrest on church property, using obscene or profane language, and breaking up a religious service.

The six men who are deputies of Sheriff C. E. Sasser, are Herbert M. Allen, chief deputy; W. M. Lewis, J. E. Jordan, R. Lee Johnson, Watson B. McCaskill, and DeVon Bell.

Meanwhile, the 14 KKK, who were the first persons arrested under South Carolina's new anti-mask law, were released last week under bonds for $1,000.

The men were arrested when dressed in traditional regalia of the KKK they and about 10 others paraded through the Cane Branch Baptist church.

Sasser, county sheriff, who has been fighting the Klan since its first open activity more than a year ago, said he was tipped off that the Klan would visit the church. He sent the deputies to it. He said the deputies acted after the men paraded down one aisle, up the other and then walked onto a public highway.

The men were charged with violating the state's anti-mask law. No date was set for a preliminary hearing of the case.

S. C. Klan Leader Pays $1,000 Fine

COLUMBIA, S.C. — After year or more of jockeying, the long arm of United States law punished lightly Ku Klux Klan head man, Thomas L. Hamilton of Leesville, here Tuesday on a charge of unlawful use of the mails.

An all-white Federal court jury convicted the Klan leader of using libelous, "scurrilous and defamatory" remarks about Wilton E. Hall, publisher of the Anderson daily newspapers and a former U. S. Senator, on a postal card mailed from Leesville last January 5.

District Judge George B. Timmerman sentenced Hamilton to one year in jail or $1000 fine — which had to paid within 24 hours. Hamilton paid the fine the next day.

Trapped by Box Number

Rep. Jesse Reese Fant Jr., a member of the South Carolina General Assembly, testified that he received the card, turned it over to his brother-in-law, who passed it on to Hall. The FBI, called in, gave the card to postal authorities.

Inspector C. T. Boone told the court he learned that the return post office box number (231) on the unsigned card had been leased to Hamilton, who at the time admitted he had mailed the card.

However, taking the stand as the lone defense witness, Hamilton denied having sent the card, saying he had been in Florida arranging a speaking schedule at the time and did not return to South Carolina until Jan. 12 or 13.

"Against Klan Policy"

Hamilton declared it contrary to klan policy to send anonymous messages through the mail or to engage in any other activities where the identity was concealed.

This prompted U.S. District Attorney Claude N. Sapp Jr. to fire back:

"So that is why you put a hood over your head and run around at night molesting people—that is, so they can know who you are?"

Federal authorities got on Hamilton's trail after he reportedly led 200 hooded men in a raid against Charlie Fitgerald's business place at Myrtle Beach, Aug. 26, 1950, where a police officer, wearing klan regalia over his regulation uniform, was shot to death.

Horry County Sheriff C. Ernest Sasser jailed Hamilton and five others on the charge, but a grand jury refused to indict them.

Federal Action Lags

Expected Federal action in the case has not developed though it was generally known the incident was under scrutiny.

The conviction of Hamilton, however, appeared to put little fear into his followers.

The following day Sheriff Sasser's deputies in Horry County grabbed 24 of 25 hooded men who paraded through the Cane Branch (white) Baptist church near Loris. He charged them with violating the State's new anti-mask law. Each was released under $1000 bond.

Acting on a tip, a half dozen deputies seized the suspects after

as deputies made the arrests.

On Friday, however, Gore, Spivey and Harvey Johnson issued a statement charging that the church had given them permission to make the appearance and drew support from the Rev. N. E. Tyler, pastor of the church, and Arthur W. Tyler, clerk.

Both said the church had unanimously approved a resolution commending and approving the Ku Klux Klan.

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their second church appearance in the section within a week. Sasser said the robed, masked men had paraded through the church.

Those jailed were listed as:

Fourteen Suspects Held

Dr. A. J. Gore of Conway, twice before arrested for Klan activity, D. B. Spivey, Harvey Johnson, Joseph Stanland, G. E. Cook, L. L.

Byrnes Backs Fight To Halt Floggings

Post-Herald

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 21 (U.P.)—Gov. James F. Byrnes backed up a sheriff's fight today to stamp out night-riding violence which cropped up anew the first day after Byrnes was inaugurated governor of South Carolina.

Embattled Sheriff C. E. Sasser disclosed Horry County's third robed flogging in six months just before Klan leaders of two states held a giant rally last night at Aiken, S. C., near the new H-bomb plant site.

Byrnes, who vowed in his inaugural address to stamp out hooded lawlessness, said South Carolina constabulary will back up enforcement by Sasser and other local authorities.

Nine Are Arrested

Nine persons were under arrest at Conway, on the South Carolina coast, charged with kidnaping and flogging a crippled farmer and his disabled veteran nephew last Wednesday night.

Grand Dragon Thomas Hamilton of South Carolina and Hill Hendrix of Florida, speaking before a fiery cross, blamed "New York racketeers" and Sasser.

"It seems that every time we are about to hold a meeting, the officials in Horry County see to it that somebody gets beat up," Hendrix told 350 Klansmen meeting within a few miles of the H-bomb plant site.

He challenged Byrnes to send his investigators into Horry and "clean it out."

'Drank Too Much'

Sasser reported a mob of some 25 robed and hooded men stripped and lashed Sam Gore, 49, and his nephew, J. C. Gore, using as a pretext a claim that the Gores had been "drinking too much."

Sasser said the elder Gore, a farmer crippled since a 1942 auto accident, and his nephew, an 80 per cent disabled veteran, were cut and bruised.

The sheriff said the nine men now free under bond included Clyde Creel, secretary-treasurer of the Horry County Klan, who was one of 13 men arrested in connection with a shooting melee last August at nearby Myrtle Beach.

In addition to this shooting, in which a robed policeman was killed during a Klan demonstration against Negroes, a sharecropper and his two sons were flogged by a hooded mob a month later.

Warning To The Klan

We applaud the manner in which South Carolina's new governor, the veteran statesman, James F. Byrnes, is taking steps to stamp out the spirit of Ku Klux Klan in his state. The Palmetto State has not had a good record in recent years in this respect, but with a governor like Byrnes and a few sheriffs like C. E. Sasser of Horry County, who arrested nine men shortly after the third flogging in his county in six months, the lawless elements should soon be under control.

S. C. Klan Head Denounces Jews And Negroes

LAKE CITY, S. C.—(ANP)—Negroes, Jews and the Truman administration came in for a bitter scathing by Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon of South Carolina's Ku Klux Klan, at a Klan rally near here last week.

He said that Negro leaders fighting racial segregation "are being pushed by the Zionist Jews of America."

In regard to a recent suit brought by Negroes against trustees of the Summerton School District in Clarendon county asking for an end to segregation in the public schools, Hamilton said:

"The Klan does not care what kind of a decision may be handed down by the United States Supreme court. No Negroes are going to sit in a school room in South Carlina with white children."

He predicted President Truman if he sought re-election would have 15,000 votes sewed up. These would come from government employees, their friends, "big labor bosses, Jews and their money.

S. C. Sheriffs Rap Both Byrnes and Ku Klux Klan

CLEMSON, S.C. — The Ku Klux Klan and Gov. James F. Byrnes, its arch foe, were condemned Saturday in resolutions adopted by the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association in session here.

Pair Invade Klan Session in Dixie

Afro American

COLUMBIA, S.C.—As about 75 klansmen and Klan sympathizers looked on, John H. McCray, editor, and Claude C. Stewart Jr., his companion, were ordered out of a Klan meeting held on U. S. Highway No. 1. No policemen were at the meeting.

To insure their leaving, and in haste, some five of the men whipped out guns and followed them to their car. The men were forced to leave during a speech being made by William Hendrix, grand dragon of the Florida Klan, who was introudced as the next governor of Florida.

The two men had arrived in time to hear the opening prayer, introduction of the speaker by Thomas L. Hamilton, South Carolina Klan leader, and part of the speakers remarks. They were standing within 50 feet of the speaker when two klansmen ordered them out stating,

Strictly for White People

"This speaking is for white people, you will have to leave." They then asked if the men had a car, and when told yes, began following them to it. Other klansmen joined them, flourishing their guns while spectators queried. "Who are they?"

While making their departure, the nervy men heard Hendrix express his appreciation for being with the fine white people of Lexington County "who know the value of the white man's rule." He accused carpetbaggers, Jews and colored people of having "messed" up the country.

Previous Meetings Mixes

The newsman was attending the meeting in order to find out how Klansmen were operating since the State passed new restriction laws against it. He had covered a Klan meeting in West Columbia in 1949.

On previous occasions colored persons have stood around as spectators at Klan meetings without being ordered to leave. After being tossed out McCracy and Stewart patrolled the area until a downpour of rain caused the crowd to scatter.

Klan Blamed As Blast Rocks Negro Church

SWANSEA, S. C., Sept. 7 (U.P.)—A white Baptist minister called off a Bible school for Negro children today at the request of frightened parents after a dynamite blast rocked the Negro church last night.

The Rev. C. A. Edwards, pastor of the white Baptist church here, pinned the blame on the Ku Klux Klan whose grand dragon lives a few miles away at Leesville, S. C., in the same county.

Edwards said a stick of dynamite was hurled at the church here from a speeding automobile while the Bible school was in progress under his direction. None of the occupants, including more than 50 Negro children was hurt.

SALUTE TO THE SOUTH

The State of South Carolina has now enacted a measure that a few years ago would have seemed hopelessly beyond the bounds of possibility: a law to forbid the wearing of masks or the burning of crosses in public—in other words, a law aimed directly and unmistakably at the Ku Klux Klan. Similar legislation was adopted earlier this year in Georgia. When Southern legislatures pass laws of this sort—whether they be measures against the Klan, or against poll taxes, or against lynching—there is genuine cause for believing that real and lasting progress is being made in the long battle for human freedom. Certain laws alone are not going to solve the racial problem—far from it. But they are hopeful and encouraging signs, and they reflect renewed credit on the courage of the many Southerners who over the years have dared to fight for them.

Ku Klux Klan Rides Again in the Carolinas, Georgia

Afro American 9-22-51

By AFRO Staff Writer

SWANSEA, S.C.—Following the dynamiting of a colored Baptist church here last week the State constabulary investigated the happening, blamed the Ku Klux Klan for the bombing in resentment of white teachers conducting a Bible School at Swansea Baptist Church. The Rev. C. A. Edwards is pastor.

The Rev. Mr. Edwards said it was the work of the Klan and that he had received a letter from the KKK boss, Thomas L. Hamilton, who lives in nearby Leesville, S.C., protesting against the Bible school.

Hamilton claimed to know nothing about the blast and said that the Klan was not involved. He admitted writing the Rev. Mr. Edwards protesting the Bible school, but said the protest was made "in the name of a fellow Baptist."

KKK Intimidation

The minister insisted, however, that "some members of the Ku Klux Klan drove by and exploded a stick of dynamite. "Some of the Klan members have tried to previously intimidate us," the minister added.

Simultaneously with activities of the Klan in South Carolina, it developed that the Ku Klux Klan is riding in Georgia again too.

Police Chief W. M. Land said he is hampered in his efforts by vague information in his personal investigation of two floggings during a cross-burning rally in Swainsboro, Ga.

Land said he got the vague accounts from a man who claimed that he was beaten with a pistol, was unable to locate another who reportedly was beaten and that he knew nothing of the cross-burning.

Out of Jurisdiction

Lt. W. E. McDuffie of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation admitted that he saw the cross-burning participated in by 75 to 100 persons, all robed, but unmasked in a residential section occuped by both white and colored dwellers.

McDuffie said that Ozie Jordan was treated for a head wound, but he made no investigation because the matter was outside his jurisdiction.

Mrs. Edsel Dawkins, property owner, testified that every colored family but Ozie Jordan's had moved from the homes she rented to them, along with several white

families.

Beaten in His Home

Mrs. Dawkins said that she had filed eviction warrants against her white tenants to avoid further trouble. She said the section on the edge of Swainsboro was intended for colored families but white families moved in during the wartime housing shortage.

Mrs. Eddie Rushing, wife of the employer of Ozie Jordan, said he told her several white men shoved their way into his home and beat him Wednesday, Sept. 12, while the cross-burning rally of the Ku Klux Klan was going on.

McDuffie said he saw no insignia of the Ku Klux Klan, and did not recognize any of the persons present.

Man beaten, Officers absent

WILLISTON, S. C., Aug. 27—(AP)—An unidentified white man was beaten at a Ku Klux Klan rally that blocked traffic on U. S. Highway 29 near here Saturday night for almost two hours.

About 150 robed, hooded and masked Klansmen held the meeting on private property adjoining the highway. Several hundred people in civilian clothes witnessed the cross burning ritual. About 200 cars were parked along the highway for about two miles.

The unidentified man was attacked on the highway by one Klansman and several men in civilian clothes. The men beat him to the ground and he was last seen being pushed up the highway.

* * *

WHEN AN ANDERSON Independent photographer tried to take pictures at the scene, he and a reporter were threatened by the Klansmen.

One wreck occurred during the traffic tieup along the highway. A car bearing a California license plate, parked on the shoulder of the road was struck by a hit-and-run driver.

There were no law enforcement officers in the area although the meeting had been publicized several days before.

The sheriff's office at Anderson said it had no report on the meeting, but added the beating would be investigated.

Klan Leaders Attack Colored People, Jews, Editors in S. C. Rally

LORIS, S.C. — Jews, colored people and newspaper editors were targets of bitter oral attacks by Bill Hendrix, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Florida and candidate for governor of that State, and Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon for the Carolinas.

Hendrix, who says he is running on a "white man's ticket" in Florida, lashed out at colored people, Jews and newspaper editors who have written unfavorable comments about the Klan. Hamilton challenged anyone to stop his Kluxers from attending any church to which they are invited.

Hamilton and Hendrix spoke Sunday night at a Klan rally attended by some 2,500 Klansmen and their sympathizers near here. Their tirades followed an address over Radio Station WLAT, Conway, by an arch foe, Sheriff C. E. Sasser, also a target of Hendrix's wrath.

Sheriff Arrests 14 Klansmen, 10 Escape Trap

CONWAY, S. C. — (SNS)—Scampering into the wooded section near a Negro church, ten hooded kluxers escaped a net set up by Sheriff C. E. Sasser of Horry County, as 14 of their raiders were apprehended, jailed and later released on thousand dollar bonds.

Members of a rural Negro Baptist Church, near here, notified the sheriff that the klan was going to stage a scare parade at the church. The alert sheriff sent a detachment of his deputies to the church and closed in on the hooded band as they came out of the church.

According to sheriff deputy Watson McKaskill, who took part in the arrests, the klansmen entered the church paraded down the isle and came right out. "I guess they were just trying to impress the Negroes that the Klan was still in existence," the deputy said. They were dressed in hoods and robes.

The sheriff said this was the first mass arrest under the anti-mass law which was enacted by the state legislature this year in a move to curb Klan activity. The law had the endorsement of Governor Byrne.

This county has been a storm center of klan activity for more than a year since the shooting to death of a Conway policeman garbbed in klan regalia during a hooded demonstration before a Negro dance hall at Myrtle Beach.

Officers Seizing Masked Men in Church Accused

CONWAY, S. C., Nov. 4—(AP)—A deacon of Cane Branch Baptist Church where 14 men in Ku Klux Klan regalia were arrested last Wednesday, has worn out warrants against six arresting officers.

The officers are deputies of Horry County Sheriff C. E. Sasser here. They are charged with making unlawful arrests on church property, using obscene or profane language, and breaking up a religious service.

Horry County Magistrate W. F. Simmons of Myrtle Beach issued the warrants. He said one of the deputies has made bond and that another plans to do so Monday.

Simmons said he had heard nothing from the four others.

The warrants were obtained, Simmons said, by A. L. Tyler. They are against Chief Deputy Herbert M. Allen, who has posted bond; W. M. Lewis, J. E. Jordan, R. Lee Johnson, Watson B. McCaskill and R. DeVon Bell.

A revival meeting was in progress at the Cane Branch Church when the 14 men were arrested. They were charged with violating the antimask law enacted by the General Assembly this year. It prohibits mask-wearing on public property.

Sasser and his deputies say the arrests were made after the masked men stepped into a public road. But some of the men held, and officers of the church said, the arrests were made on church property.

Sheriff Arrests 14 Klansmen, 10 Escape Trap

CONWAY, S. C. — (SNS)—Scampering into the wooded section near a Negro church, ten hooded kluxers escaped a net set up by Sheriff C. E. Sasser of Horry County, as 14 of their raiders were apprehended, jailed and later released on thousand dollar bonds.

Members of a rural Negro Baptist Church, near here, notified the sheriff that the klan was going to stage a scare parade at the church. The alert sheriff sent a detachment of his deputies to the church and closed in on the hooded band as they came out of the church.

According to sheriff deputy Watson McKaskill, who took part in the arrests, the klansmen entered the church paraded down the isle and came right out. "I guess they were just trying to impress the Negroes that the Klan was still in existence," the deputy said. They were dressed in hoods and robes.

The sheriff said this was the first mass arrest under the anti-mass law which was enacted by the state legislature this year in a move to curb Klan activity. The law had the endorsement of Governor Byrne.

This county has been a storm center of klan activity for more than a year since the shooting to death of a Conway policeman garbbed in klan regalia during a hooded demonstration before a Negro dance hall at Myrtle Beach.

Hooded Night Riders Flog 2 Men in New Carolina Terror Outbreak

CONWAY, S. C., Jan. 20 (U.P.)—Hooded night riders have flogged two crippled men in a new terror outbreak in Horry County. It was reported today as the Carolina Ku Klux Klan gathered for a "segregation" rally tonight near the Aiken H-bomb development site.

In the third such violence in the county within six months, a mob of some 25 robed and hooded men abducted and whipped Sam Gore, 49, and his nephew, J. S. Gore, 25, Wednesday night, Sheriff C. E. Sasser said.

Sasser said that four men have been arrested in connection with the attack.

The elder Gore, a farmer, has been a cripple since an automobile accident in 1942 and his nephew, an 80 percent disabled veteran, has been under treatment by Army doctors and psychiatrists. He wears a silver plate in his head from battle wounds.

The raiders accused the Gores of "drinking too much" as a pretext for taking them to a school yard, until they were badly bruised, the sheriff reported.

Sasser did not flatly accuse the Klan of the attack, but it was learned that about 75 Klansmen held a meeting at nearby Crescent Beach on the night before the flogging.

Tonight, a big Klan rally to be held within a few miles of the Aiken H-bomb reservation on the western side of the State beside the Savannah River was expected to draw hundreds of hooded members from both South Carolina and Georgia.

Thomas Hamilton, Carolinas grand dragon, was billed to speak on "What We Are Doing About Segregation" and Bill Hendrix, of the Florida branch of the Klan, also was expected to speak.

The South Carolina faction of the hooded group has alone been identified with hooded terrorism in the last year. Alabama's nightriders apparently disbanded after a vigorous prosecution in 1949. The northwest Georgia group hasn't "ridden" in more than a year.

Alabama has had an anti-masking law for nearly two years and Georgia has just enacted one.

Hooded Nightriders Flog 2 Crippled Men In Terror Outbreak

CONWAY, S. C. — (AP) — Hooded nightriders have flogged two crippled men in a new terror outbreak in Horry county, it was reported Saturday at the Carolina Klu Klux Klan gathered for a "segregation" rally Saturday near the Aiken H-bomb development.

In the third such violence in seacoast Horry county within six months, a mob of some 25 robed and hooded men abducted and whipped Sam Gore, 49, and his nephew, J. C. Gore, 25, Wednesday night, Klan-battling Sheriff C. E. Sasser said.

Sasser said that all of them have been arrested in connection with the attack and four of them have been "definitely identified" as members of the whipping party.

The elder Gore, a farmer, has been a cripple since an automobile accident in 1942 and his nephew, an 80 per cent disabled veteran, has been under treatment by Army doctors and psychiatrists. The youth wears a silver plate in his head from battle wounds.

The raiders accused the Gores of "drinking too much" as a pretext for taking them to a school yard, stripping them and lashing their backs and buttocks until they were badly bruised, the sheriff reported.

Sasser did not flatly accuse the klan of the attack on the Gores, but it was learned that about 75 Klansmen held a meeting at nearby Crescent Beach on the night before the flogging.

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Klan leader calls for cleanup of 'rackets'

AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 22—(AP)—Thomas Hamilton, grand dragon of the Carolinas' Klans, says there are "rackets" in one South Carolina county and challenges Gov. James F. Byrnes to clean them up.

Hamilton, in a speech at a K. K. K. public meeting near here Saturday night, did not name the county. But by inference the crowd of about 250 gathered in was Horry. Hamilton said the county was "a stopping off place for gamblers between New York and Miami."

HE SAID the Klan had gone into the county "to fight this thing," and later, when men were beaten in the county, the sheriff tried to pin the beatings on the Klan. The Klan had nothing to do with the beatings, the grand dragon declared.

Three months ago, also at a public K. K. K. meeting, Hamilton declared that some business men in Horry County had to pay protection money to police authorities.

Two Flogged, Klan Rallies Near H-Project

CONWAY, S. C., Jan. 20—(UP) Hooded night riders have flogged two crippled men in a new terror outbreak in Horry County, it was reported as the Carolina Ku Klux Klan gathered for a "segregation" rally Saturday night near the Aiken H-bomb development.

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Dragon Slated to Speak

Thomas Hamilton, Carolina's grand dragon, was billed to speak on "What We Are Doing About Segregation" and Bill Hendrix, of the Florida branch of the Klan, was also expected to speak.

The South Carolina faction of the hooded group has alone been identified with hooded terrorism in the last year. Alabama's night riders apparently disbanded after a vigorous prosecution in 1949. The Northwest Georgia group hasn't "ridden" in more than a year.

Alabama has had an antimask law for nearly two years and Georgia has just enacted one.

But in Horry County, a policeman wearing a Klan robe over his uniform was killed during an anti-Negro demonstration at Myrtle Beach last September. A month later, sharecropper Rufus Lee and his two sons were dragged from their home and beaten by men wearing robes and hoods.

Carolina Klan Head Indicted By Grand Jury

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (ANP) — A federal grand jury last week indicted the grand dragon of the Carolinas version of the Ku Klux Klan on charges of sending defamatory information through the mails.

A true bill was reported against Thomas L. Hamilton of Leesville, S. C., because of post cards he sent out in behalf of the Klan.

The jury considered the cards "obviously intended to reflect injuriously upon the character and conduct" of Wilton E. Hall, publisher of the Anderson Independent and Daily Mail.

Hamilton will be subject to a maximum penalty of one year in Jail or a $1,000 fine or both. The case probably will not come up before next fall.

2 Held for Shooting Up Site of Ku Klux Rally

Conway, S. C. May 14 (U.P.)—Two men were held today for "shooting up" a farmhouse where a Ku Klux Klan rally was held Saturday night. Sheriff C. E. Sasser said warrants were issued for Luther Page and his son-in-law, Roy Jackson. Marvin Woodle complained that shots were fired into his house after the rally ended. Page admitted attending the rally but denied the shooting.

KKK Misuses Uncle's Mail

U. S. GRAND JURY INDICTS HAMILTON

A. U. S. Grand Jury indicted Thomas L. Hamilton of Leesville, grand dragon of South Carolina Ku Klux Klans men, on charges of using the mail to send defamatory matters here Monday.

Not expected to face trial before the fall, Hamilton, if found guilty, faces a year in jail, or $1,000 fine, or both.

Hamilton was charged with mailing an unsigned penny postal card from Leesville to Rep. Jesse Reese Fant, Jr. of Anderson county, reflecting "injuriously" on a newspaper publisher.

Four Negroes were reported on the grand jury which found a true bill against the klansman, who has been the central figure in a battle against Horry county sheriff C. Ernest Sasser and recently state officials.

Hamilton faces charges of having violated the state's new anti-klan law in Horry county, being out on bond for using a red light on the front of his car.

U. S. District Attorney Claude N. Sapp, Jr. said that Mr. Hall turned the letter over to FBI agents, who in turn consulted postal authorities, who traced it to Leesville, whose postmark it bore.

Typewritten, the card bore the caption "KKK NEWS" and after its defamatory contents about the Anderson publisher and newspaper men in general, concluded with "AMERICANS WAKE UP."

The indictment, adhering to Section 1718 of federal statutes, setforth that Hamilton mailed the card on Dec. 5, 1950.

Arrested last fall by Horry county authorities as one of several robed men who wrecked the establishment of Charlie Fitzgerald at Myrtle Beach, Hamilton, with four other suspects, was freed by an Horry county grand jury.

Several days before his latest brush with state law, he had been arrested by Horry officers for using a siren while leading a parade around Loris and into Whiteville, N. C.

Klan Leader Convicted Of Defaming Publisher

COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct. 30 (UP). —Ku-Klux-Klan leader Thomas L. Hamilton was convicted today of writing a postal card defamatory to a newspaper publisher. Judge George Bell Timmerman sentenced Hamilton either to spend a year in jail or pay a $1,000 fine.

Hamilton denied at his Federal District Court trial that he sent the card which defamed the publisher, Wilton E. Hall, of "The Anderson (S. C.) Independent and Daily Mail."

The questioned card was unsigned but was traced to Hamilton by postal authorities. The card was sent to State Sen. Reese Fant jr. in December. He gave it to Hall who forwarded it to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Hamilton organized the Association of Carolina Klans in 1949 after pulling out of the Georgia Klan at the time of Dr. Samuel Green's death. Green was a leading figure in the post-war Klan movement in the South.

Byrnes Charges Klan Aided By Law Officers

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (INS) — Gov. James F. Byrnes, of South Carolina Wednesday crack down on the Ku Klux Klan, as well as state officials, in the wake of a disturbance created by hooded hoodlums near Anderson.

In a statement issued by his Secretary, Alex McCullough at Columbia, the governor attributed the Anderson incident to "inefficiency" of state patrolmen and Anderson County Sheriff Clint McClain.

Two men claimed they were beaten by Klansmen and two newsmen were threatened by the group under the leadership of Thomas Hamilton, self-branded grand dragon of the Carolina Klans.

Governor Byrnes pointed out that both the highway patrolmen and Sheriff McClain said they did not know that the kluxers would meet last Saturday night despite the fact that the cross-burning had been publicly announced in the newspapers and in circular advertisements.

Governor Byrnes, vacationing at his Isle of Palms Beach house near Charleston, directed that the State Law Enforcement Division henceforth make certain that any further Ku Klux meetings are held under surveillance of the law.

The governor instructed Chief Olin Brady to get assurance from local sheriffs or the state patrol that such Kluxer gatherings are patrolled.

Klan Turns Violence On S. C. Whites

ANDERSON, S.C.—(INS) — Hooded Ku Klux Klansmen, led by Carolina Dragon Thomas L. Hamilton, blocked traffic on U. S. Highway 29, near Anderson, Saturday, then assaulted an unidentified white man and threatened two Anderson newspaper men.

The flare-up occurred when Hamilton, who resides at Leesville, denounced all 46 South Carolina State Senators for their unanimous approval of an anti-lynching bill.

James R. Young, associate editor of the Anderson Daily Mail, said that about 100 masked and robed kluxers threatened him and P. F. Hall, son of the Anderson newspaper publisher and former U. S. Senator Wilton Hall.

Batter Man

Young reported that the Klansmen also grabbed a white man, who had disagreed with what Hamilton was saying, and battered him with their fists in the middle of the highway.

The victim of the Kluxers' blows was rushed away from the crowd by the kluxers.

RALEIGH, N. C. — (INS) — An offer to "cooperate fully" with South Carolina officials in stamping out Ku Klux Klanism was made Sunday by North Carolina's governor, Keer Scott.

Governor Scott, who warned Kluxers a week ago that he would have any of them arrested promptly if they violated a law when they met at Whiteville, N. C., deplored reports of violence in a klan cross burning at Anderson, S. C., Saturday night.

The North Carolina Governor said he would "cooperate fully with" Gov. James F. Byrnes, of South Carolina "whenever we feel that such a step is necessary to put down violence by the klan or any other group."

Young said the man had done nothing more than mention that he disagreed with Dragon Hamilton.

The Klansmen, in still another incident of the Hamilton speech, tried to jerk a man from the driver's seat of his automobile, but apparently did not succeed in doing so.

Under Indictment

Hamilton, who is under a federal grand jury indictment for allegedly using the U. S. mails to convey defamatory material, wore green robes as he thundered abuse upon the South Carolina solons. In the background was the klan's usual flaming cross.

Young, former International News Service bureau manager in Tokyo, said that he and Hall were pushed "down the road" by a kluxer when they argued that it was within the law to take photographs on a public highway.

The klansman replied:

"Is that so?"

A spokesman at the sheriff's office in Anderson said nothing was known of the Klan meeting in advance. It had been announced two weeks previously. State Highway Patrol officers said they had no men available to attend the KKK session.

...ville Meet

...lton, last Saturday night, ...acted a sheeted and hooded ...together at Whitesville, N. C., ...t, in that instance, the session was surrounded by police. North Carolina's governor, Keer Scott, had warned Hamilton that any unlawful performance would result in immediate arrests.

Hamilton promised at the Whiteville meeting that he would reorganize the triple K's through the Carolinas. The Anderson meeting was believed to be a part of his program.

South Carolina's governor, former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, has denounced klanism, but he was unavailable for comment on Hamilton's performance at Anderson.

S. C. Klan Head Denounces, Jews And Negroes

LAKE CITY, S. C.—(ANP)—Negroes, Jews and the Truman administration came in for a bitter scathing by Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon of South Carolina's Ku Klux Klan, at a Klan rally near here last week.

He said that Negro leaders fighting racial segregation "are being pushed by the Zionist Jews of America."

In regard to a recent suit brought by Negroes against Trustees of the Summerton School District in Clarendon county asking for an end to segregation in the public schools, Hamilton said:

"The Klan does not care what kind of a decision may be handed down by the United States Supreme court. No Negroes are going to sit in a school room in South Carlina with white children."

He predicted President Truman if he sought re-election would have 15,000 votes sewed up. These would come from government employees, their friends, "big labor bosses, Jews and their money.

KLAN INTERVENTION ON SCHOOLS CITED

Member Attended Chattanooga Meeting and Truancy Raids Followed, Court Is Told

By JOHN N. POPHAM

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 13—Information that a member of the Hamilton County Chattanooga School Board took a member of the Ku Klux Klan to a school officers meeting in December, 1947, to discuss enforcement of the school attendance law has been given to the chairman of the Hamilton County Court, it was made known today.

Within a few days after the meeting, according to newspaper records, five home in the county were visited at night by masked men and the residents were intimidated by cross burnings. One of those visited, it was stated, was severely beaten and required hospital treatment.

The information given the court chairman stated further that the day after the meeting a school attendance officer and an unidentified "finger man" for the Klan drove around the county. It was noted that five homes subsequently were visited by night raiders.

Four of the families named in the information have acknowledged to local newspaper men that they were visited in 1947 by klansmen. The fifth family since has moved from the area. All lived in sparsely-settled sections and there were eight to twelve children in each family.

Report Shots on Klan

Several of the Klan-threatened families said they had fired on the robed riders during the cross burnings. All insisted, however, that the Klansmen at no time stated the purpose of the nocturnal visit.

Judge Wilkes Thrasher, County Court chairman, disclosed that the information was given him a few days ago by several persons in oral statements that were not made under oath. He said that he planned to call the matter to the attention of the twelve-member court since that body is responsible for appropriating school funds and for electing school board members.

As outlined by Judge Thrasher, the basic charge was that Elbert S. Long, school board member, brought the Rev. Hobart Linkous, former pastor of a Baptist Church in Chattanooga, to a meeting of school attendance teachers. The Rev. Mr. Linkous admitted in 1949 that he had been a member of the Klan for a number of years, but denied reports that he was head of the Klan in this area.

Long Issues Statement

Mr. Long, when told of the information given Judge Thrasher, issued a statement declaring that he had taken the Rev. Mr. Linkous to the meeting after the minister had told him that he knew of several violations of the school attendance law and "thought something ought to be done about it." Mr. Long said he never had knowingly associated with any klansmen an dthat at the time of the school meeting he had no knowledge that the Rev. Mr. Linkous ever had been a klansman.

Considerable information and background material was given Judge Thrasher by The Chattanooga Times. Mr. Long, in his written statement, declared that The Times was "doing exactly the right thing in publishing the facts which they have gathered."

The Rev. Mr. Linkous, who says that he now has a pastorate in a small town in North Georgia, when informed of the developments, declared:

"Well, I don't know anything about it. I have no information. I think they're absolutely wrong about that, defiintely wrong about them."

Three On Trial For Violation Of Tenn. KKK Ban

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Three white men are on trial here on charges of violating Tennessee's Anti-Ku Klux Klan law.

The defendants, James Hardy, Joe Vandergriff and Jim Green, are charged on three counts of conspiracy to violate the public peace in the "intimidation and beating" of several Negroes and two white persons near here on December 31, 1948.

Specifically, they are charged with visiting several homes and warning the occupants against attending a New Year's Eve singing by a mixed Negro and white group.

Dora Crawford, one of the witnesses, testified that "the house was full" when a masked group visited her home.

"They had guns and pistols and everything else. The yard was full of people," she said.

She also testified that the group took aged Charlie Whiteside from the house and "put a sack on his face."

"I saw him that night", she said. "He came back bleeding. I saw stripes on him."

She testified she recognized Hardy among the group by his voice, saying "I've been knowing him practically all my life." On cross examination, however, she later said "I don't remember anything."

If convicted the defendants, who entered pleas of innocent, face possible penalties ranging from $100 fines to death.

Cross Warning Given Looby

NAACP Attorney in Tenn. Gets Note

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A warning note to Z. Alexander Looby, noted local attorney, was found at the foot of a crudely constructed Ku Klux Klan cross burned last Thursday night, Mar. 29, in a triangle at the intersection of Acklan and Grove Aves., Police Lt. W. A. McDaniel reported.

According to McDaniel, police headquarters received a call on the burning cross at 8 p.m., but when Patrolmen Russell Jones and Albert Shelton arrived on the scene, the 5½-foot-tall cross, made of 2x4 lumber, had burned out. It was wrapped in cotton and burned only briefly, he said.

The note, apparently written by an unlettered person, words on it being incorrectly spelled, was found at the foot of the cross. Efforts of police to reach Mr. Looby for comment failed. The lawyer lives at 2012 Meharry Blvd., several miles from the cross-burning scene.

Another Cross Is Burned, This Time in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A four foot cross was burned in a vacant lot at the corner of Sixth Avenue, North, and Garfield Street shortly before 10 o'clock last Saturday night.

Cross Burned At Manakin; Third in Area

Men Flee Negro Home In Auto, Firing Pistol

MANAKIN, VA., Feb. 25—A six-foot cross was burned in front of the home of a Negro family in the center of this small Goochland community shortly before 10 o'clock Saturday night.

It was the third such cross to be burned in this vicinity within the past week, authorities said. Two of the crosses were burned in Goochland County and the third in the western section of Henrico County.

In all three cases, the crosses were burned in front of the homes of Negro tavern owners. Law enforcement authorities were unable to give any reason for the burnings.

The latest cross was burned in front of the home of John B. Pittman, owner of a small tavern on State Route 6, about 11 miles west of Richmond and 10 miles east of Goochland Courthouse.

Five Shots Fired

Pittman said he heard a commotion in front of his home Saturday night. When he went to the front door the cross was blazing. He said five or six white men were running away. They jumped into an automobile parked near by and drove away in the direction of Goochland Courthouse, he said.

Pittman said one of the men stuck a pistol out of a window of the automobile and fired five times.

"I can think of no reason why they pocked out me to burn a cross," Pittman said. "I have run a business in the county for years and have no enemies as far as I know."

Deputy Sheriff John Amos said a similar cross was burned Saturday, February 17, in front of Ida Mickie's home on Maidens Road, several miles from the Pittman residence.

There had been a fight at the Mickie Tavern the night before and several persons had been arrested, Amos said. "We thought it was some of those arrested trying to get revenge on the woman but with the burning last night it puts a different light on the matter," he said.

Pranksters Suspected

Amos said no one saw the cross being placed at the Mickie place. Several shots were fired as the automobile drove away.

Both crosses were about six feet high and made out of small strips of wood like bean holders, Amos said. The crosses were wrapped in burlap bagging, which had been soaked in oil.

Amos said he and Sheriff Joe Powers were working on the cases.

White persons living in the vicinity were questioned by a reporter, but none could give any information as to why the crosses had been burned.

In the Henrico County case, the cross was burned in front of the Broadway Inn, a Negro tavern on Broad Street Road about five miles west of Richmond, also on Saturday night, February 17.

Henrico County Policeman R. H. Beck, who investigated the complaint, said he thought it was the work of pranksters. He listed "vandalism" on his report.

Manakin Negro Tavern Owners Are Targets

MANAKIN, Va. — (ANP) — This community was stirred last week as a result of the burning of a six-foot cross in front of a Negro family's home here. The burning cross was discovered shortly after 10 o'clock Saturday evening.

It was the third cross to be burned in this community within a week, officials said. Two of the crosses were burned in Goochland county where Manakin is located and the third in the western section of Henrico county.

In each case the crosses were burned in front of the homes of Negro tavern owners. Yet law enforcing officers were unable to give any reason for the burnings.

Last week's cross was burned in front of the home of John B. Pittman, owner of a small tavern on State Route 6, about 11 miles east of Goochland courthouse.

According to Pittman, he heard a commotion in front of his home Saturday night and went out to investigate. When he went to the front door, the cross was blazing. He said five or six white men were running away as he opened the door. They jumped into an automobile parked nearby and drove away in the direction of Goochland Court house.

One of the men, Pittman said, stuck a pistol out of a window of the automobile and fired five times.

Pittman's comment was: "I can think of no reason why they picked out me to burn a cross. I have run a business in the county for years and have no enemies as far as I know."

Deputy Sheriff John Amos said a similar cross was burned Feb. 17 in front of Mrs. Ida Mickie's home on Maidems road, several miles from Pittman's home.

There had been a fight at the Nickie tavern the night before and several persons had been arrested, Amos said. "We thought it was some of those arrested trying to get revenge on the woman, but with the burning at Pittman's place "it puts a different light on the matter," he said.

Amos said no one saw the cross being planted at the Mickie place. Several shots were also fired as the automobile drove away as in the case of the Pittman home cross burning. Both crosses were about six feet high and made out of small strips of wood like bean holders, the sheriff said.

Tavern Owners Molested

Probe Firing Of 3 Crosses

MANAKIN, Va.—Crosses have been burned in front of the homes of three Negro tavern owners in this vicinity within a week.

Two of the crosses were burned in this (Goochland) county while the third was burned near the western edge of Henrico County.

The third was burned in front of the home of John B. Pittman, operator of a small tavern about eleven miles west of Richmond.

Pittman said he heard a commotion outside his house and when he went to investigate a 6-foot cross was aflame. He said five or six white men were running away from the scene and leaped into a parked car and sped toward Goochland Courthouse.

One of the men, Pittman said, thrust a pistol out of a window of the car and fired five times. He said he did not recognize any of the men.

"I can think of no reason why they picked me out to burn a cross," said Pittman. "I have run a business in the county for years and have no enemies as far as I know."

Deputy Sheriff John Amos said a similar cross was burned earlier in front of the home of Mrs. Ida Mickie, on Maidens Road, several miles from Pittman's house. Amos said there had been a fight at her tavern the night before and said that might have been the basis for the cross-burning. The deputy sheriff said no one was seen at the Mickie cross-burning, but that several shots were heard as a car drove away from the scene.

In the Henrico County case, a cross was burned in front of the Broadway Inn, a tavern on Broad Street about five miles west of Richmond. Henrico County patrolman said he thought it was the work of pranksters. He listed the incident as a case of "vandalism."

In both Goochland County cases the crosses were about six feet high, made of strips of wood such as are commonly used for staking snap beans, wrapped in burlap and had been soaked in oil.

SHADES OF THE ROBED RIDERS:

High Court Decision Kills Ku Klux Klan Act

By LOUIS LAUTIER
For the NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON

Due to the work involved in reading the 102 pages of opinions rendered in the case of the eleven top Communists, an important civil rights decision of the Supreme Court, handed down the same day, was overlooked.

It was the decision that persons deprived through a conspiracy of their rights to peaceably assemble and petition the Federal government for a redress of grievances may not sue private individuals for damages in a Federal court. The importance of this decision lies in the fact that it makes virtually meaningless the Act of April 20, 1871, to enforce provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

Popularly known as the Ku Klux Klan Act, it was among the last of the Reconstruction measures designed to protect the freedmen from oppression by their former masters. It provided civil remedies for conspiracies to deprive by force, intimidation or threat, any person or class of persons of the equal protection of the laws, or equal privileges and immunities under the law.

Grounds for Case

The case, which reached the Supreme Court, arose out of a meeting of the Crescenta-Canada Democratic Club, organized and chartered by the Los Angele sDemocratic Central Committee, in the city of LaCresenta on the evening of November 14, 1947, at which foreign policy was to be discussed and a resolution in opposition to the Marshall Plan passed and sent to Washington.

Persons wearing caps of the American Legion broke up the meeting, threatening and assaulting persons in attendance. Five members of the club sued for damages of $25,000 in the Federal District Court at Los Angeles. The trial court dismissed the complaint on the ground that the civil rights statute does not sanction a suit against individuals who interfere with Federal rights unless the interference is committed by state officer.

The Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco reversed the decision. The club members then appealed to the Supreme Court.

The NAACP apparently recognized this when it filed a brief as a friend of the court supporting the contention that suits for money damages are triable in Federal courts where private individuals interfere with persons in the exercise of federal rights.

'The Tragic Era'

In condemning the Ku Klux Act, Justice Robert H. Jackson, who wrote the majority opinion, cited Claude Bowers' "The Tragic Era" as authority to his assertion that the act "was passed by a partisan vote in a highly inflamed atmosphere. Bowers' book is highly prejudicial. Its title indicates that.

The dissenting opinion, written by Justice Harold H. Burton and concurred in by Justice Hugo Black and William O. Douglas, appears to state a view more in accord with the intent of the Congress which enacted the Ku Klux Act.

"Congress certainly has the power to create a Federal cause of action in favor of persons injured by private individuals through the abridgement of federally created constitutional rights," said Justice Burton. "It seems to me that Congress has done just this."

The decision is this case is just one more in a long line of decisions in which the Supreme Court has gradually whittled away the civil rights statutes. Under its interpretation of one section of the civil rghts statute, the Justice Department is virtually unable to secure convictions in cases where individuals are the victims of death at the hands of state officers solely because of the malice of the officers.

3 1951

White Circle League (Illinois)

Civil Liberties Union Backs Head Of White Circle League

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (NNPA) —Although opposed to the white supremacy activities of Joseph Beauharnais, head of the White Circle League in Chicago, the American Civil Liberties Union has filed a brief in the United States Supreme Court in his behalf.

The Union told the court in its brief that it "rejects the views" expressed by Beauharnais in his publication, which formed the basis of the charges upon which he was convicted, but it undertook the case solely because it believes that the Illinois statute in question violates the constitutional guarantee of free speech, free press, free worship and of due process.

Many states in attempting to suppress racial and religious antagonisms, the Union said, have enacted similar statutes. They are all aimed at expressions of opinion, the Union stated. All invasions of the rights of free speech, press, worship and assembly must be thoroughly examined, it added.

"Thus, while we detest what is here published, we fight for the right of publication," the Union declared.

Beauharnais is seeking a reversal of the judgment of the Illinois Supreme Court affirming his conviction in Chicago Municipal Court.

Beauharnais was found guilty on May 14, 1950, of violating the Illinois "group libel" law. The statute extends the civil liberal law to groups classified because of race, color, creed, religion or ancestry, and makes violation of the law a criminal offense punishable by fine or imprisonment.

The complaint charged that Beauharnais on January 7, 1950, published an article holding colored people up to contempt. He was found guilty by a jury and fined $200. The Illinois Supreme Court on January 16, 1950, affirmed the judgment.

The case grew out of a meeting of the White Circle League on January 6, 1950. Beauharnais chaired the meeting, which was called for the purpose of obtaining volunteers to carry placards, distribute leaflets and obtain signatures.

One Latimore attended the meeting and offered to distriute leaflets and obtain signatures the next day. Beauharnais instructed Latimore to wear a sandwich style placard on which appeared the following words:

"Preserve and protect white neighborhoods. Sign petition here. Sponsored by the White Circle League of America."

Beauharnais also passed out to each volunteer a petition to be signed by passersby. The petition called on Mayor H. Kennelly and Chicago aldermen "to halt the further encroachment, harrassment and invasion of white people, their property, neighorhoods, and persons, by the Negro."

It also called for 1,000,000 "self-respectin white people in Chicago to unite under the banner of the White Circle League of America to oppose the national campaign now on and supported by Truman's infamous civil rights program and many pro-Negro organization to amalgamate the black and white races."

Beauharnais is the organizer of the White Circle League of America, organized to maintain white supremacy.

The American Civil Liberties Union contends that the Illinois statute infringes upon the constitutional guarantees of free speech, press and assembly. It also argues that the statute is void because it violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment in that it is vague and indefinite and does not adequately apprise citizens of the offense charged.

The brief was filed on behalf of Beauharnais by Alfred A. Albert, of New York City, attorney for the ACLU.

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WHITE CIRCLE LEAGUE (Illinois)

Jailed Race-Baiter Begins Hate Party

CHICAGO (ANP)—Joseph Beauharnais, Chicago's imprisoned leader of the hateridden, now defunct, White Circle League, has age Permit No. 675.

This circular is seeking to gain followers for his movement— followers who first will get him out of jail if he has to carry his case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

He is now serving sentence for disseminating race and religious hate literature (he does not like colored people or Jews), but still wants to get out. Also his White Circle League's charter has been revoked by the State of Illinois.

Praises Talmadge, Byrnes

Here is an idea of what he has to say in his new circular:

"WARNING." This heading told the readers of his bulletin how the judges in Illinois, whom he called "race mixing politicians," had convicted him to get votes.

He accused colored persons of invading every white neighborhood He asked his backers to conform to the "American way of life" by maintaining white neighborhoods, thus preventing communism.

Beauharnais concluded his news bulletin by praising Gov. Herman Talmadge of Georgia and Gov. James Byrnes of South Carolina for their statements in which they threaten to close their States' public schools rather than allow colored children to attend if so ordered by the U. S. Supreme court.

'White Legion' Scatters Leaflets In Norlina, N. C.

By CLARENCE HUNTER

NORLINA, N. C.—There is a possibility that a new hate organization is springing up in the vicinity of this Warren county town.

A number of five-by - eight inche leaflets were distributed in the colored section of the town on Monday night, October 22, warning the colored residents that they have "forgotten the law of white supremacy, the word respect, and have tried to walk in the path of the whites."

The leaflets signed by "The White Legion" warned, "should it be necessary, the Legion would return with rope and torch." The leaflets, inscribed at the top with a hood and flaming cross, also told Negroes to take heed because 'the night holds death."

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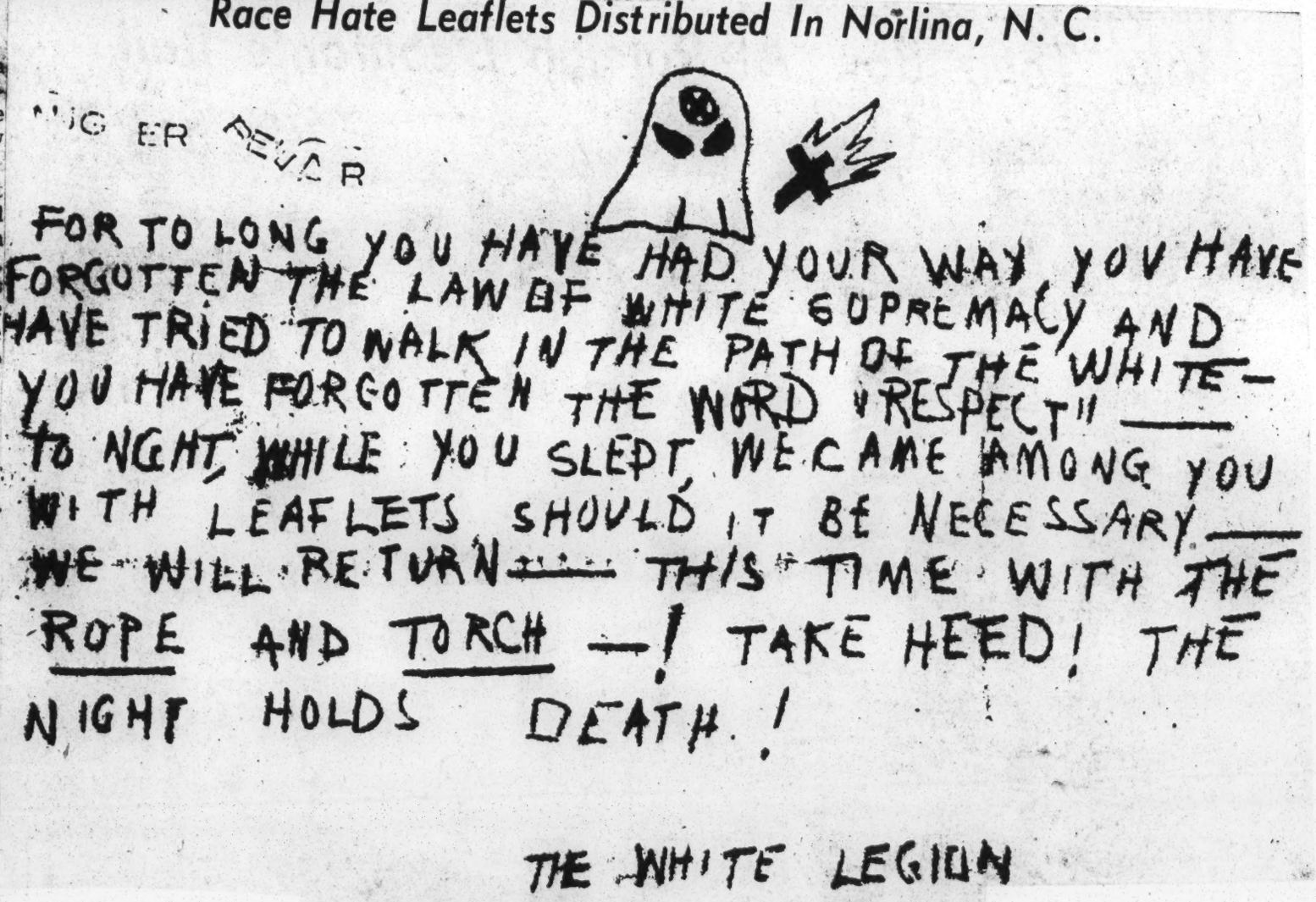
WILLIE N. CARTER, Norlina Chief of Police, told the Journal and Guide that the leaflets were distributed while some of the colored residents were attending a local dance and that 20 had been turned over to the State Bureau of Investigation in Raleigh, N. C.

He said that the distribution of the leaflets appeared to be a prank and that it was an unfortunate occurance because there has been no racial strife in the town in the last 20 years.

A colored resident of the town told the Journal and Guide that the leaflets were thrown up and down the streets and in the yards of the colored residential section. According to this report, none were placed on any porches and there was no physical violence of any sort.

Police Chief Carter reported that he had met with colored representatives in an effort to throw some light on the situation. The Norlina Police Department is planning no immediate action, but is waiting until it gets a report from the State Bureau of Investigation.

Race Hate Leaflets Distributed In Norlina, N. C.


NIGGER BEWARE
FOR TO LONG YOU HAVE HAD YOUR WAY YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN THE LAW OF WHITE SUPREMACY AND HAVE TRIED TO WALK IN THE PATH OF THE WHITE— YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN THE WORD "RESPECT" —— TO NGHT, WHILE YOU SLEPT, WE CAME AMONG YOU WITH LEAFLETS SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY —— WE WILL RETURN —— THIS TIME WITH THE ROPE AND TORCH —! TAKE HEED! THE NIGHT HOLDS DEATH.!
THE WHITE LEGION

Leaflets like this, signed by "The White Legion" were distributed in the colored residential neighborhood of Norlina N. C. on Monday night Oct. 22. Some of the leaflets have been turned over to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation in Raleigh N. C. Norlina officials are waiting for the SBI report before taking any local action.